The German Tribune

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EEC summit opens Eurocurrency door

Common Market heads of government agreed in Bremen to study a Franco-German *plan to stabilise exchange rates in* Western Europe by introducing a European Currency Unit backed by pooled assets as part of a European Monetary System. Detailed proposals will now be drawn up: Initially Britain, Ireland and *Italy are unlikely to join because of* domestic economic difficulties.

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt can be satisfied with the Bremen EEC summit. Plans for a European monetary system drawn up jointly with President Giscard d'Estaing of France have at least not been rejected out of hand by the other members.

Indirectly, this ought to foster confidence within the business community, thereby *encouraging investment. If a* European currency unit area does come into being, exporters should feel less unsure of themselves, and long-term planners in company boardrooms may feel encouraged to create new jobs in *the years ahead.*

At least six months will go by, probably longer, before the monetary plans suggested in Bremen reach maturity. Many details of the new system, which non-EEC countries Austria, Norway and Switzerland might well join, have yet to be negotiated.

It was clear from the start of the Bremen summit that Britain and Italy will not be as eager over the plan as France. Neither Whitehall nor Rome can afford to give the impression to domestic trade union opinion that Common Market decisions are obliging them to exercise wage restraint.

If Labour is returned to power in the coming British general election Mr Callaghan might, however, be more inclined to favour a European monetary system.

In relative terms Bonn will be paying the highest price for the progress towards *European integration.*

The Bundesbank would be expected to pay the largest share of the bill for a European monetary fund that would be an essential part of the system. Admittedly, the Bundesbank holds the world's largest foreign exchange reserves.

Britain and Italy will hardly be in a position to join the scheme unless more taxpayers' money from the "rich" EEC countries is channelled into the poorer *regions of Western Europe via the Brussels* Commission.

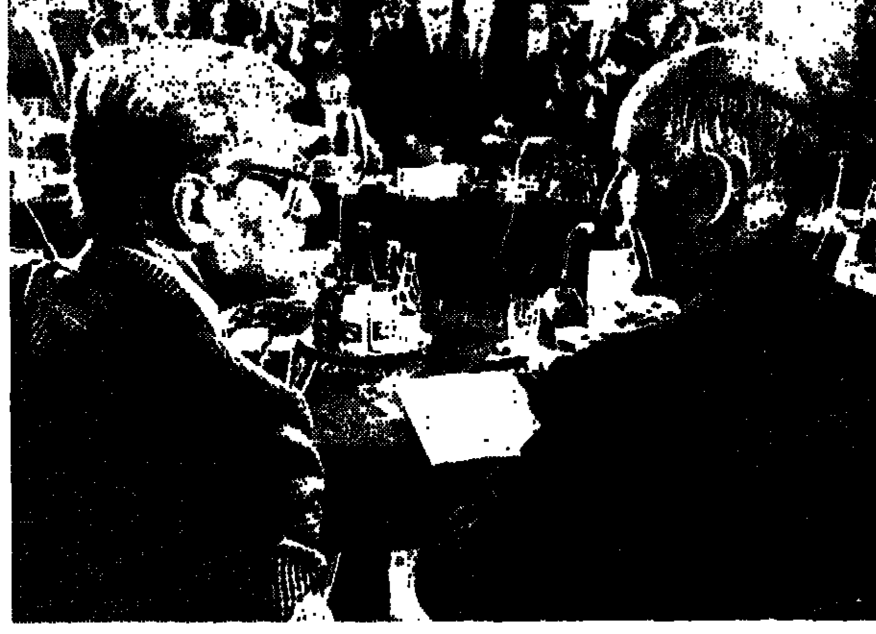
It is all very well for Opposition CSU leader Franz Josef Strauss to attack the Bonn government, but what sort of Eureopan Community does he envisage?

The aims outlined in Bremen do not entail a tangible increase in the political powers of Common Market institutions, and recent years have shown that economic ties within the EEC have not influenced either side of industry sufficiently to rule out the possibility of backtracking when progress is not made.

Helmut Schmidt has resolved to force the issue on EEC progress because otherwise both management and union interests stand to suffer.

The Chancellor has doubtless also decided to act because President Carter can no longer be expected to show further initiative in reactivating the world economy and discouraging protectionist *trends.*

He did not stipulate in Bremen the domestic tax cuts envisaged as Bonn's part of the bargain. Herr Schmidt presumably intends to lay his cards on the table at the seven-nation international economic summit in Bonn — with a view to negotiating concessions by the Americans and Japanese in return.



Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in conversation with French President Giscard d'Estaing at the EEC summit in Bremen. Across the conference table from them (standing) is the president of the EEC Commission, Roy Jenkins of Britain, with vice-president Francois-Xavier Ortoli seated beside him. (Photo: dpa)

Contrary to original hopes, the Bremen EEC summit failed to come up with *anything likely to bring spectacular* results at the Bonn summit, apart, perhaps, from a declaration of intent on a common energy policy.

At the Bonn summit four Common Market countries, Britain, France, Italy and West Germany, will face the United States, Canada and Japan.

The Nine did manage a "minor miracle" at Bremen in commissioning a reform of Common Agricultural Policy. At *last consideration is to be given to* reducing at least the relative burden of massive farm price subsidies.

Few would deny that it would be sounder economic sense to invest some of the CAP money in job-creation schemes, but the facts of political life in several EEC countries mean little chance of reform.

Yet the EEC is progressing, albeit in minute steps that will not, in the foreseeable future, lead to the creation of a Western European confederation.

There is little immediate substance in the anxiety felt by many Germans and voiced in Bremen by Burgomaster Hans Koschnick, vice-chairman of the Social Democratic Party.

Herr Koschnick was worried that European integration might foreclose on the option of German reunification, but one is as distant, yet just as feasible, as *the other.*

And both will remain so in the wake of both the Bremen summit and the next meeting of EEC heads of government in Brussels next December.

Erich Hauser
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 July 1978)

IN THIS ISSUE

Key features of European money unit

There are three key features of the European Monetary System proposals *outlined by Chancellor Schmidt and* President Giscard D'Estaing at the Bremen EEC summit.

First, the margin within which exchange rates of member currencies will be allowed to float is to be reduced to one per cent above or below an agreed level.

Central banks of all member countries will intervene to defend a currency on international exchange markets as soon as the rate slumps more than one per cent below par.

The same will apply to currencies for which the market rate exceeds par by more than one per cent, except, of course, that central banks will sell the currency to keep the rate down rather than buy to maintain it.

Second, cash is needed to finance these operations. Member countries will be expected to place 20 per cent of their gold and foreign exchange reserves at the disposal of a European Monetary Fund.

Assuming that Britain, Ireland and Italy are unable to join initially, the vaults of the central banks of the other six EEC countries would have yielded a 20 per cent share totalling roughly DM43,500m at the end of April.

This would include DM25,000m from the Bundesbank, plus roughly the same amount in deutschemarks (and corresponding amounts of national currency contributed by the others).

The intention is that no one country is to contribute more than half the total and thereby accumulate power within the organisation.

Once Britain, Ireland and Italy join the EMF it should have assets totalling easily DM100,000m with which to sup*port member currencies in need.*

Members will commit the cash rather than deposit it with the fund, acting on the assumption that its availability will discourage runs on the weaker European currencies.

If needed the backing will be there, just as the Thin Red Line was sufficient to maintain Britain's Imperial presence and the Pax Britannica of the 19th century.

Third, countries that underwrite other, weaker, currencies have a right to expect something in return: in this case monetary discipline maintained by means of Common Market resolutions.

When an EEC currency threatens to fall below its one per cent safety margin because the country is living beyond its means, economy measures will be prescribed by other members of the scheme.

Hermann Bohle
(Bremer Nachrichten, 8 July 1978)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Close watch on Bonn's EEC leadership term

For the next six months Bonn, as chairman of the EEC Council of Ministers, will be expected to give the lead in the European Common Market.

It is a role Bonn has been most reluctant to assume in the past, but now leadership is expected.

From the chair Bonn will be instrumental in drafting the Nine's agenda. Until the end of the year it will also be responsible for speaking on the Community's behalf.

This chairmanship may not carry really substantial power, but it still reactivates deep-seated fears of German powermongering in a number of neighbours.

Others have high hopes of Bonn proving both energetic and generous at the helm. The EEC would seem to be equally divided between anxiety and expectation.

The Times, anxious to block swings of the emotional pendulum, recently said that the Germans exercised "restraint and responsibility" in their use of power.

In his 5 July policy speech Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, chairman of the Council of Ministers, demonstrated how keen the federal government is not to overstep the mark.

He was so low-key in outlining EEC policy that members of the European Parliament accused him of cowardice. Yet Bonn has no need to be ashamed of its plans.

The main item at the EEC's Bremen summit, a European monetary system hesitantly launched at the Copenhagen summit last spring, testifies to bravery rather than timidity.

It is some time since the Nine attempted such a leap forward, and success in Bremen, at the first time of asking, was unlikely.

Monetary differences within the EEC and differing economic priorities among the Nine — reflate or deflate? — are sure to bedevil the attempt for some time. But the declaration of intent means something, since it demonstrated at the Bonn economic summit to both the United States and Japan that the Europeans are capable of action.

Three more objectives have priority during Bonn's chairmanship of the Council of Ministers.

First, Bonn wants to help end the recession without creating further waves of inflation, something easier said than done. Countries such as Britain and the United States are still keen to see Bonn and Tokyo boost the world economy. But Bonn takes a dim view of being required to develop the proverbial head of steam singlehanded.

It must thus convince the others that only a joint effort by all industrialised countries will start cash registers ringing again.

And it must first get the message across at home in Europe. Cartels such as the EEC Commission in Brussels is increasingly willing to establish as a way of battening down the hatches are potentially dangerous.

Both among the Nine and at the Gatt talks in Genova Bonn must warn everyone that protectionism will not rejuvenate world trade and may well prove its undoing.

Second, fresh challenges await the Common Market in international trade:

— Ties with Comecon are in the offing, but Moscow will prove a tough customer, bargaining hard and seriously challenging the staying power of the Nine.

— There must be no mincing words with Japan about Tokyo's drive to export but reluctance to import.

— Above all, the Lomé Convention between the EEC and 53 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries will soon be due for renegotiation.

The convention has proved of crucial importance to the developing world. It will be largely up to Bonn's leadership to ensure that talks are not bogged down by pettifogging reservations from other EEC countries.

Third, the Common Market is limbering up for further expansion and it is too late to debate whether or not this is advisable.

To try to pull back would jeopardise the future of democracies recently re-established in Southern Europe when membership was seen as consolidating them.

The EEC has set itself a number of deadlines which Bonn as chairman must ensure are met. Membership negotiations with Greece are to be concluded by December, talks with Portugal begun this summer and a fundamental decision on Spain's membership bid made by the end of the year.

Will Bonn's current tenure be decisive? Minister of state Klaus von Dohnanyi says so, but this does not mean Bonn is keen to achieve results at all costs.

Bonn's ambitions in the EEC chair are limited, but whether or not it suits the federal government, many projects and problems will require decisions.

The next six months at the helm of the Common Market seem likely to be a testing period.

Dieter Buhl

(Die Zeit, 7 July 1978)

Czechs expel TV journalist

West German TV correspondent Helmut Clemens has been expelled from Czechoslovakia because his activities were said to be irreconcilable with cordial relations between the two countries.

His expulsion is also hard to reconcile with cordial ties, but when regimes such as Czechoslovakia's get nervous they tend to be even more dogmatic than usual. Clemens is probably right in assuming that the Czech authorities are uneasy because of the coming tenth anniversary of the Warsaw Pact invasion.

They have decided on caution and expelled Helmut Clemens, a man who has dealt in detail with the Dubcek era.

The Czech authorities are particularly unsure of themselves and thus particularly narrow-minded, but they are not the only ones.

In Moscow the authorities are trying to intimidate two American journalists. In the GDR West German correspondents are accused of intelligence activities in connection with Marxist dissident Rudolf Bahro.

Western correspondents seem to have become an increasingly serious problem in most East bloc countries, but this has less to do with the correspondents themselves than with the unstable conditions in the countries they cover.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 July 1978)

Bulgarians looking for more trade

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Bulgarian Foreign Minister Peter Mladenov arrived in Bonn for a two-day visit on 3 July, first meeting Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Economic ties dominated their talks, the Bulgarian government being particularly keen to expand trade. Other issues included the European security conference, the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament and troop cuts in Central Europe.

The Bulgarian Foreign Minister saw President Walter Scheel and Chancellor Helmut Schmidt on 4 July.

Bulgaria is worried about EEC import quotas, which Sofia sees as upsetting traditionally cordial trade ties between the two countries.

It argues that the time has come for specific and practical steps to remove difficulties that beset Bulgarian exports to the Federal Republic.

Between 1971 and 1977 trade between the two countries nearly trebled, from \$109m to \$289m.

Closer scrutiny reveals, however, that imports from the Federal Republic largely make up the increase, while Bulgarian exports have remained more or less static.

Bulgaria is keen to extend industrial cooperation with Bonn. Twenty-seven agreements have so far been concluded, mainly in electrical and mechanical engineering, electronics, chemicals and light industry.

At a dinner for the Bulgarian Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher noted that 10 per cent of Bulgarian exports to the Federal Republic entail industrial cooperation between the two countries. Further promising projects are in the offing.

Referring to Bulgarian complaints about EEC import quotas, Herr Genscher said last year the Federal Republic took 40 per cent of Bulgarian exports to the Nine.

He went on to outline Bonn's views on world affairs, saying the European security conference called for thorough preliminary consultations.

This applied both to the next CSCE follow-up conference in 1980 and to the three expert gatherings.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 July 1978)

Nuclear Club celebrates 10th birthday

The nuclear non-proliferation treaty signed 10 years ago by America, Russia and Britain was the first major East-West agreement.

It was also the first time the two superpowers came together in a political agreement.

True, its forerunner was the treaty banning nuclear tests above ground, but the non-proliferation treaty was incomparably more significant.

The aim was to prevent countries other than the existing nuclear powers from developing atomic weapons of their own, and it was the subject of heated debate.

It was widely discussed internationally but nowhere, perhaps, in greater earnest than in this country, understandably, since the issue was a final distinction between the nuclear have-nots and the chosen few atomic powers.

Criticism was not over the aim, implicit in the treaty, of forestalling the emergence of new nuclear powers. What was resented was the attempt to discriminate against nuclear research for peaceful purposes.

Peaceful nuclear research, it was argued, stood to be restricted. Supplies of enriched uranium could dry up and German manufacturers, leaders in research, might find themselves at a disadvantage.

At the time, the superpowers denied these allegations, as did domestic supporters of the treaty, led by the Social Democrats. But misgivings were so deep-seated that foreign policymakers in Bonn took particular care to negotiate safeguards.

What, then, has become of the good intentions and the fears of the late 60s?

About 100 countries have signed the non-proliferation treaty, but those that have not include Japan and India, France and China.

Weel over half the world's countries have forgone the right to manufacture atomic wepons, but a number of states have chosen to retain at least the option.

So the treaty's first drawback is self-evident: the number of nuclear powers has not been limited. India, for instance, can already manufacture its own warheads; South Africa is rumoured to have the Bomb. So is Israel. Brazil certainly has the means.

According to a US physics student, any reasonably intelligent individual ought to be able to build his own nuclear device. So the nuclear risk can hardly be said to be contained.

The treaty's effect on peaceful atom research has not been as dramatic as feared. German industry has maintained its lead, although it might well have been even more competitive by now if the non-proliferation treaty had never been signed.

Uranium supplies certainly depend on US goodwill, as has often been proved. US attacks on the nuclear deal between a West German consortium and the Brazilian government also testify to the handicap the non-proliferation treaty has undeniably proved.

Eduard Neumaier

(Nordwest Zeitung, 30 June 1978)

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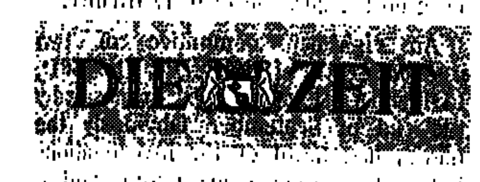
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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Kurt Gscheidle's rough ride on the railways



Even his critics now admit that Kurt Gscheidle, Minister of Post and Transport, knows his job.

This has not always been the case. When he took office, he had to put up with cheap puns on his name from the newspaper *Bild* and face the fact that few critics considered him capable of solving the problems of the Bundesbahn and the Bundespost. The federal railway system was hopelessly in the red and few believed it could be made to pay its way. The German Post Office only made a profit because it could practically name the price for its services.

Today it is generally recognised that Gscheidle is fully aware of the main problems in his ministry, something which could not be said of his predecessors, Hans-Christoph Seebohm, Georg Leber and Lauritz Lauritzen, in matters of transport.

Despite this, Gscheidle is constantly criticised by the Opposition, the unions and dissatisfied post office customers. In recent weeks criticism has come from the Bonn coalition itself and even from his own party, the SPD.

Herbert Wehner told Gscheidle he was disappointed in him. The Bonn Ministry of Economic Affairs, led by Graf Lambsdorff (FDP), has accused him of being a monopolist, arguing that the Bundespost is forcing private companies to the wall. The unions, railwaymen in particular and even the Post Office union to a certain extent, are even cooler towards him than usual. Times are again tough for Kurt Gscheidle.

If there was anyone else in the SPD with the perverse desire to become Minister of Transport, Gscheidle would not be in office long. Even as things stand, his future does not look rosy.

He will have difficulty getting into the Bundestag again: in a number of instances he has gone too far for his party colleagues. While Willy Brandt talks of revising the Extremists Decree, Gscheidle still insists that postmen and other minor post office officials should be severely penalized for being members of communist parties. He might have been forgiven for this strictness in 1976, but in 1978 this is going too far.

Gscheidle, as a member of a party which traditionally has great faith in state-run institutions, has proposed that the Bundesbahn should be de-nationalised. It would become private, its employees, with their extremely favourable conditions of work and service, would no longer be paid by the state, but the huge railway network would be subsidised by the taxpayers.

Gscheidle also proposed a reform of the Post Office and the railways bus services, which now compete. He wanted to see them merged and run privately, despite promising the SPD and the unions that the new service would be state run at first. This was what so angered Herbert Wehner.

This is all a bit much from a Minister without any influential groups or forces behind him in the Bundestag or in the SPD parliamentary party. Gscheidle spends too much time reflecting and brooding on his schemes and trying to think of improvements.

He does not have time to cultivate his image in the parliamentary party. What is worse anger at him within the SPD is something of a tradition. It started shortly before the last general election when Gscheidle gave the go-ahead for the Bundesbahn president to advocate halving the railway network. Anger also stems from Gscheidle, to ensure the survival of the Bundesbahn, allowing the number of railwaymen to decrease year by year.

Then there was annoyance at the new telephone price system, which no-one gets excited about these days, and the dispute about the Post Office's arrogant attitude on the telecopier market. All in all, an overdose of irritation.

One of Gscheidle's outstanding characteristics is that he is constantly taking beatings. He could have been chairman of the German Trade Union Confederation if, at the time of the election he had not been beaten up badly near the Stuttgarter Platz in Berlin, a shady area.

He could have made more progress in the important matter of the reform of the Bundesbahn if his political awkwardness had not got him attacked before he could really get started.

He could have established his reputation as the most capable Transport Minister since the war beyond a small circle of well-disposed observers and experts if so many of his good deeds had not been obscured by altercations.

As things are, he has to reckon with getting the push fairly soon. He has used up the bonus which his genial Swabian manner, his advice to holidaymakers and his admonitions to car drivers to wear safety belts have brought him. Even though there are no Social Democrats in Bonn, or at least in the parliamentary party, who would like to take his place, the discontent is such that few of his party colleagues wish Gscheidle a good political future.

As an expert on the Post Office, he was not at all happy about taking over transport as well, but he did so out of a sense of duty. This is something few of his party colleagues thank him for now.

The blame is to be sought in the fact that Gscheidle exaggerated one of the typical elements of Social Democratic policy during the 1960s.: the preference for rational planning, for the precise preparation of political decisions. Apart from the fact that the results of these policies often look very different from the conception, Gscheidle, despite his precise calculations, often overlooked that one can achieve little as a politician without support.

What use is the finest experiment with a privately run system to replace post and railway buses if there is no force to take up the struggle with indignant employees and union officials?

What is the use of detailed proposals on making railwaymen private instead of state employees when you have not even won the support of your own party, let alone the Minister of the Interior? The illusory belief in the power of the intellect alone has been the downfall of Social Democrats such as Karl Schiller and Horst Ehmke. Gscheidle should have learnt this lesson.

The next reason why Gscheidle, despite all his hard work, has not made progress or been thrown back immediately after every step forward is that the transport department of his ministry — the more important part of the double portfolio — is virtually ungovernable.

His predecessors had given the go-ahead for the building of so many roads throughout the country that it must have been obvious which form of transport had priority: the car, despite the many question marks against it and the fact that the railways were originally far superior economically.

Minister of Post and Transport Kurt Gscheidle: will he be ridden out on a rail? (Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

In 1974 work had started or was about to start on the roads that made business even more difficult for the railways. The Bundesbahn lost billions of deutschemarks. No references to the economic importance of the railway network and its social and political significance could appease the Ministry of Finance paying the bill.

The Bundesbahn has been mismanaged to death and suffers from an unbelievably rigid structure. In its present form, no-one could possibly revitalise it. Gscheidle was expected to do so and, what is more, without treading on anybody's toes.

Even robuster and politically more agile characters would have been unable to perform the task. On the other hand, their lack of success might not have been as apparent as Gscheidle's. Georg Leber, a disaster as Minister of Transport, still has the reputation of being a sound man. Gscheidle does not.

Dieter Piel

(Die Zeit, 7 July 1978)

The education of Jürgen Schmude

In three months at the Bonn Ministry of Education and Science Jürgen Schmude has seen for himself the labyrinth of educational federalism in West Germany.

His opposite numbers, the Land Education Ministers, are confident he has taken on too much. They cannot see him finding a path through this administrative and educational jungle.

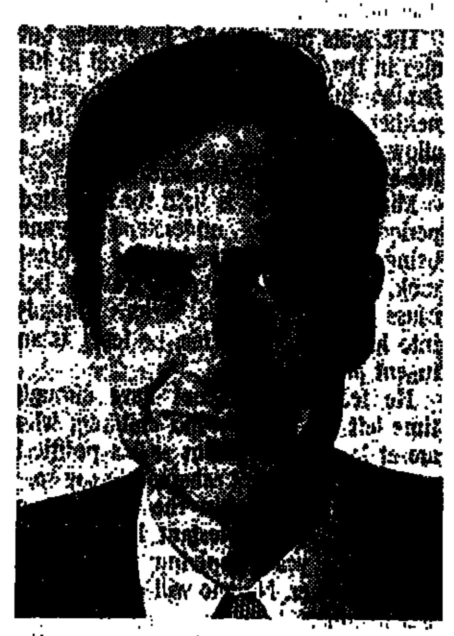
They reckon that, like Sisyphus in the Ancient Greek legend, he will find the stone rolls back into place to moment he manages to dislodge it.

Herr Schmude had been in office only a few days when Rhineland-Palatinate Premier Bernhard Vogel forecast an outcry unless Bonn stopped putting pressure on the Länder to accept uniform national school and university regulations.

But the Minister has not dropped the federal government's list of grievances over federal education. "There has been no warcry yet," he says.

The Opposition has yet to turn on Helmut Rohde's successor at the Bonn Education Ministry. Jürgen Schmude emerged from the July Bundestag education debate with flying colours.

The Christian Democrats seem unsure how to attack him. The label "mischiefmaker" will not stick. Neither will the taunt "grey mouse."



Minister of Education and Science Jürgen Schmude: tough customer behind the soporific air (Photo: Sven Simon)

"I could have done worse than my display of composure verging on the soporific," the Minister says quietly.

Schmude, is anything but asleep. In four months at the ministry he has gained a firmer grip on his civil servants than his predecessors Hans Leussink, Klaus von Dohnanyi and Helmut Rohde.

The news that Schmude is not easily to be caught napping has swiftly spread beyond the corridors of power in Bonn.

Helmut Rohde began a campaign to introduce a modicum of uniformity in the educational system and Schmude is pressing ahead with it.

Warcries and clashes as forecast by Herr Vogel are not what Schmude has in mind. He is keen to avoid anything that might end the debate. For instance, he has called on the Bonn Cabinet not to insist on additional powers directly but to manage the debate as though supplementary federal education powers were the only way out of an alarming situation.

Schmude knows he enjoys the backing of the whole Cabinet in this strategy, including the Free Democrats, who might otherwise prefer him to sound a more strident note.

The 41-year-old centre-left Social Democrat and member of the Leverku-

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■ ISSUES

Baum clamp on border scrutiny

KielerNachrichten

The Federal Border Guard (BGS) will in future only be able to lend the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, the internal intelligence service, large-scale assistance with the express approval of the Interior Minister.

Bonn Interior Minister Gerhart-Rudolf Baum has imposed this strict limitation following reports of questionable inspection and surveillance work by the BGS.

Using photographs supplied by the Cologne-base intelligence service, the border guard has since 1963 tried to keep track of foreign travel by Communist Party officials.

The latest, 1977, edition of this classified photo album consists of six volumes of pictures and particulars of 798 officials of left-wing organisations.

This material has been withdrawn and locked away on his orders, Herr Baum told the confidential Bundestag committee that monitors the intelligence services on 4 July.

Representatives of all parliamentary parties are reported to have agreed that border guard collaboration in this venture has to top.

Statements by the Minister and parliamentary parties and information from other Bonn sources indicate that:

— The intelligence service and border guard may not have grossly contravened the law by this practice, but they kept it up unbeknown to the politicians responsible.

— The success of the campaign has been out of all proportion to the effort and expenditure undertaken. Between 1974 and 1977 there were 129 left-wingers indexed but only 283 journeys abroad by 58 persons were recorded.

In 1977 the number of left-wingers on the list was increased to 789, which made surveillance even more difficult.

— The albums supplied by the intelligence service were not stamped classified. Yet 154 sets of the six-volume edition were issued, increasing the risk of the watched deriving greater benefit from the practice than the watchers.

"The security risks of passing on intelligence information are greater than the benefits to be derived," the Minister says.

This being the case, the constitutional obligation on all branches of the public service to lend each other assistance needs reviewing. It must also be subjected to stricter political control.

The leak in this instance is the issue of catalogues by the Intelligence service to the border guard with no indication of the classified nature of the material.

Frankfurter Rundschau, the first newspaper to publish details of BGS surveillance practices, claims that during the search for the terrorists who abducted Hanns-Martin Schleyer last autumn all travellers to and from Paris between 20 and 35 were screened.

The Interior Ministry has conceded this, explaining that 49 letters from the terrorists were posted in Paris but evidently taken there by courier from this country.

The Federal CID ordered a wholesale check on travellers to identify the couriers. Details were not passed on to other authorities. The file on travellers to and from Paris was destroyed after the conclusion of the Schleyer affair in all except eight cases.

Axel Wernitz, Social Democratic chairman of the Bundestag home affairs committee, commented that leaking information to the general public could seriously hamper efforts to stamp out crimes of violence and terrorism.

He feared there might be "a systematic graduated plan to hamper and paralyse the security authorities."

(Kieler Nachrichten, 6 July 1978)

Tax evasion charges blow to industry federation

The Confederation of German Industry (BDI) has not yet recovered from the blow of Hanns Martin Schleyer's death.

First it looked desperately for a successor and was turned down by all the leading industrialists it approached. Then it decided to appoint Nikolaus Fasolt, who owns a medium-sized tile factory in Bonn. Fasolt was hardly installed in office when his firm had to announce mass redundancies and now he has received a court summons for tax evasion.

Fasolt is not the only accused. Thirty state prosecutors are now conducting investigations into tax evasion in connection with donations to the CDU by 105 companies throughout the country.

The Bonn State Prosecutor's Office, coordinating the investigations, has completed some and applied to the civil court for summary fines. Fasolt received a demand for DM 58,000 and Peter Weber, director of the Servais factory, connected with Fasolt's Bonn Wessel factory, received a demand for DM 11,250. Fasolt and Weber have both appealed and if they do not withdraw the matter will come to court.

The State Prosecutor accuses these companies of claiming as business expenses between 1971 and 1975 payments never made. He alleges that they paid excessive fees for expert economic opinions provided by the European Company Advisory Service, based in Vaduz, Liechtenstein. This organisation cooperates with Union Enterprises in Bonn, owned by the CDU. The prosecutor is also investigating this company.

Wessel and Servais factory lawyers have said there is considerable uncertainty about what is legal in the matter of donations to political parties. The companies are referring to a decision by all the Bundestag parties last week to amend the Parties' Finance Act and clear up the question of party finance.

An eightman committee of two members each of the CDU, the SPD, FDP and CSU is to present proposals by the end of September. Obviously the parties had heard of the investigations before they were made public and it cannot be ruled out that other parties beside the CDU used these methods of finance.

The Fasolt case is less an individual one than a case involving the whole question of party finance. The State Prosecutor does not warn those involved that investigations are taking place. But Fasolt and the Wessel factory management must have known of the investigation by the tax department before they received the demand for payment.

Peter Christian Müller

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 June 1978)

Terrorists on the run

Terrorist raids remain a distinct possibility even though most hard-core German terrorists are now under lock and key, says Kurt Rebmann, director of public prosecutions, in Karlsruhe.

In his report on efforts to combat terrorism in the first half of 1978 he says 21 suspected terrorist leaders are still on the wanted list at home and abroad.

Thirty-nine suspects are awaiting trial and four more are serving life sentences. Eleven are being held abroad. Herr Rebmann is confident the Yugoslav authorities will hand over their four suspects before long.

Despite undeniable successes terrorism has yet to be stamped out, he says. The terrorist scene is evidently no longer as sure of itself now it is clear the dragnet has been extended.

Terrorists are not only being hounded throughout Western Europe but can also no longer be sure of refuge in Eastern Europe.

Herr Rebmann announced that proceedings had been started against a group of right-wing extremists in Schleswig-Holstein.

The activities of 21 members of a paramilitary division of the Viking Youth in Schleswig-Holstein are under investigation over a number of offences.

The group is claimed to have bought stolen Bundeswehr equipment, attacked Bundeswehr sentries, stolen 1,000 rounds of army ammunition, robbed a Hamburg bank of DM66,000 and attacked and robbed a Bundeswehr patrol and Dutch servicemen.

These offences, says the director of public prosecutions, were intended to procure cash and weapons for a terrorist organisation. The group proposed to destroy Nato installations and attack the Berlin Wall and memorials to the victims of National Socialism.

They may also have been to blame for the explosives attack on the public prosecutor's office in Flensburg in September last year.

Eight members of extreme right-wing groups have recently been arrested in connection with a variety of criminal offences in Schleswig-Holstein.

dpa/ddp

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 5 July 1978)

Continued from page 3

Schmude learns

sen group is backed fully by Chancellor Schmidt, party chairman Brandt and parliamentary party leader Wehner.

Yet he does not say what his audience wants to hear. He knows what he wants and gives an impression of being straightforward and above board.

He works quietly and behind the scenes, but is a tough customer. He does little talking at Cabinet meetings, but when he speaks everyone pays attention. There is no whispering such as accompanies Cabinet pronouncements by *Agriculture Minister Josef Ertl*.

Schmude has a polished speaking style fit to print even when he is delivering an off-the-cuff judgement. He is a hard man to lure on to dangerous ground because he readily admits to lack of knowledge.

He reminds Bonn government spokesman Armin Grünewald of the late President Gustav Heinemann as a young man. Heinemann is certainly one of the men on whom he has modelled himself.

After reading law, Schmude joined Gustav Heinemann's Essen law firm, joined Heinemann's splinter party and switched to the Social Democrats in the same year Heinemann died.

Heinemann was the first to voice fears lest Schmude embark on a full-time political career sooner or later. This background comes to mind when Schmude says what he thinks about his role as Minister. As far as he is concerned the possibility of political downfall over educational responsibilities does not arise.

His roots are not only in politics but also in the Protestant Church and in his family. Educational responsibilities are neither important enough nor do they allow sufficiently of a solution to be a life-and-death political cause.

Ministerial office is held for a limited period. He cannot understand anyone being sad at no longer holding Cabinet rank. Herr Schmude takes this view because his post makes serious inroads into his private life. This, he feels, is an urgent problem.

He feels he does not have enough time left for his wife and children, who are at least as important as his political career, and he is not ashamed to say so.

He met his wife in the GDR when on a visit as a Protestant layman, and spent four years applying for an exit permit for her. No-one will deny that he has stamina.

As parliamentary state secretary at the Interior Ministry he objected to the expulsion of Chilean exiles for so long that they were eventually allowed to stay.

No-one who applies to Jürgen Schmude for advice and assistance needs fear that his problem will be lost in paperwork.

"It may take longer but I eventually reach the target the way I set about matters," he once said. He evidently still thinks so.

Some Social Democrats are worried that this strategy, pursued in the jungle of educational federalism where the laws of political common sense count for little, may be doomed to failure.

Yet Schmude prefers to bide his time and wait for the coming white paper on vocational training, which he feels will be an issue on which a stand might be worthwhile.

As the law stands the Federal government is already entitled to raise a levy to finance new apprenticeships and maintain existing training facilities.

But this would be sure to trigger an outcry from business. Yet what is to be done if not enough apprenticeships are available for school-leavers again next year?

"Little leeway remains," Schmude says. "The government has so far refrained from raising a levy but it has no intention of dispensing with the legal right to do so." He will say no more.

Udo Bergdoll

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 July 1978)

■ SECURITY

Search on for 'safe' vetting

It is comforting to know that of the 3.7 million employees in the public and civil service, only 1600 are reckoned to be left and only 500 to be right extremists.

From a purely numerical point of view our state is not in danger. Yet it is alarming that the Social Democrats and Christian Democrats cannot agree on how to prevent enemies of the state infiltrating the public service.

There is no denying that the Radicals Decree of 1972 has led to forms of investigation only inadequately described by the word "snooping." Government spokesman Grünewald said in May 1976 that the decree, introduced by Chancellor Willy Brandt and the Land Prime Ministers in 1972, had outlived its usefulness.

This does not of course mean that we can be any less vigilant in ensuring that extremists do not get into the civil service. But how can a consistent and national method of preventing this be worked out if leading members of the senior partner in the governing coalition cannot agree.

As far as Transport Minister Gscheidle (SPD) is concerned, no member of the German Communist Party (DKP) should become an official in the public service, not as a postman nor as train driver. This puts him out of line with party conference decisions and the party leadership of Brandt, Bahr and Koschnick, who in future want vetting only to take place in sensitive security areas — the Bundeswehr, the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, the police, the State and Senate Chancelleries. (This suggests that a communist teacher is more harmless than a communist policeman). Does not Brandt's proposal amount to any candidate becoming a teacher provided his application does not admit that he is an enemy of the state.

Apart from the fact that this kind of distinction is not acceptable — the same degree of loyalty must be demanded of all state officials — the new SPD line which the deputy chairman hopes the FDP will accept contains a discrepancy.

On the one hand, people like Mechthild Jansen of the Socialist University Association (who advocate a Popular Front) are expelled from the SPD. On the other, the state is expected to employ people with similar opinions who are not as well known. It is understandable that Civil Servants' and Teachers' Associations are not prepared to go along with this.

The Civil Service Act imposes on the state the duty to ensure that candidates for at all times uphold the free and democratic basic order of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Federal Constitutional Court confirmed this requirement in its ruling of 22 May 1975. It did not, however, say how this willingness was to be determined.

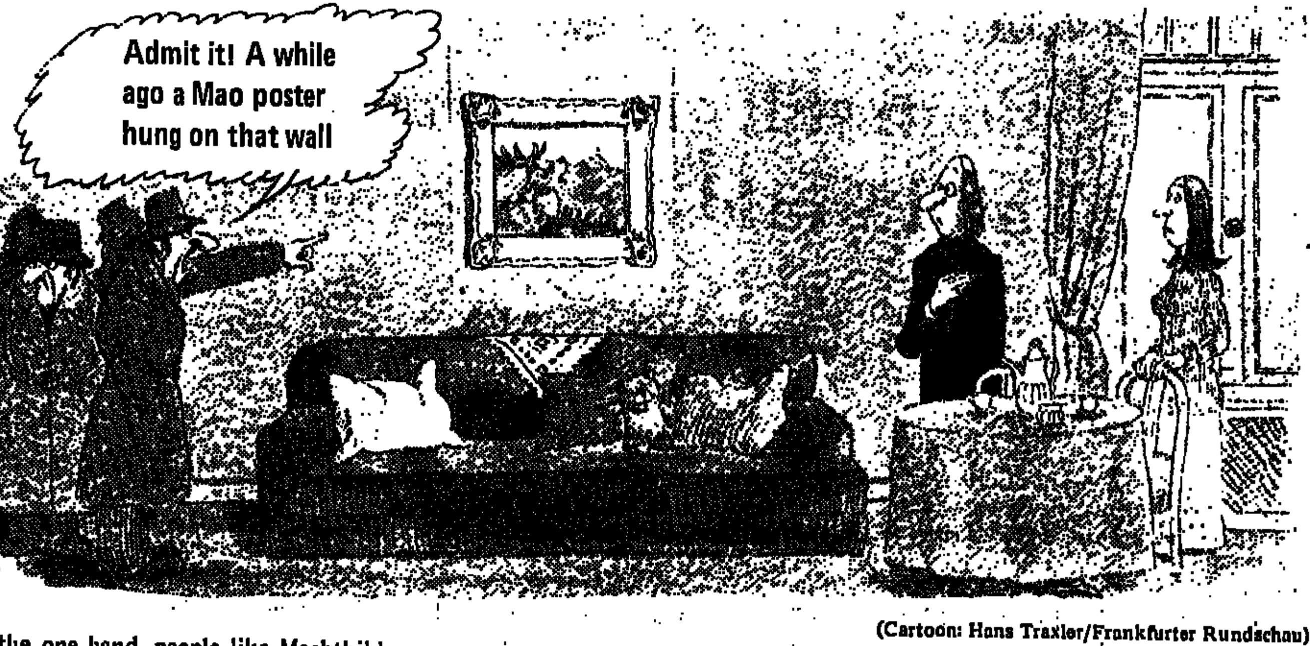
The SPD and FDP believe "mere membership" — of left-wing parties at least — is not sufficient grounds for rejection. There are deep divisions here between the FDP left under Helga Schuchardt in Hamburg and the FDP right under Klumpp in the Saarland.

Some courts and employing authorities cite the passages in the Karlsruhe ruling which say that membership in in itself constitutes sufficient grounds for rejection. Others refer to the passage which says that this membership should only be taken into account "as one factor in an overall pattern of behaviour" which could lead to rejection.

As the Karlsruhe judges did not make a clear and unambiguous ruling, it is up to the politicians to make a decision. They must decide in such a way that the security needs of the state are met while the free intellectual climate is not damaged.

Hilmar Börsing

(Bremer Nachrichten, 26 June 1978)



(Cartoon: Hans Traxler/Frankfurter Rundschau)

Extremists Decree needs sober look by CDU, CSU

Ten years ago, Alexander Mitscherlich wrote the book *Die Unfähigkeit zu trauern* (The Inability To Mourn) to shake us, to remind us of the insane crimes committed in the name of the German people.

It seems that it is high time another book along these lines were written. Its title would be *The Incapacity for Dialogue*, and it is a book we would all do well to read. The political parties would certainly benefit. Their willingness to discuss problems with one another in a sober and rational manner has long sunk below zero point.

The latest example of this incapacity for dialogue is the discussion of the unhappy Extremists Decree, which needs close critical examination because of the way it is applied in some quarters. On this subject the CDU and CSU seem to be completely incapable of talking rationally, soberly assessing the situation and drawing conclusions.

No-one would claim that the SPD proposals, made by Willy Brandt in particular, after the process of rethinking on this issue within the party, are the last word in political wisdom. What is alarming is the self-righteous, gloating and at times quite simply fatuous reaction of the CDU-CSU and even worse the complete absence of any disquiet at the vetting methods used to date.

Yet the CDU-CSU must be aware that the balance so far is clearly negative. There is a gigantic disproportion between the number of candidates rejected and the enormous amount of time and money spent investigating their political records. This has led to a climate of intimidation, uncertainty about the legal position, cringing conformity and resignation.

There is an proverb to the effect that realising your mistakes is the first step towards correcting them. Reviewing and

Continued on page 7

New procedure suggestions

The SPD favours introducing a two-tier system of investigating the loyalty to the constitution of candidates for civil service posts according to the interim report by deputy party chairman Hans Koschnick on the work of the committee investigating the Radicals Decree.

The committee recommends a revised investigative procedure:

- Candidates for the public service — except in sensitive security areas — to be vetted only if the employing body has specific evidence casting doubt on their loyalty to the constitution.
- Every candidate to be vetted before a final decision on whether he can become a state official.

The Koschnick committee also says that membership of a party hostile to the constitution but not banned — the DKP for instance — is not sufficient ground for excluding a candidate from state service. The criterion should be active membership.

The SPD sees no reason to change current employing practice in the public service. The committee says this is "very open" as it requires candidates to fill in a questionaire and produce references. The committee also considers inoffensive the procedures used to investigate employees in the public service. According to the latest report by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, there are only 1600 left-wing and 400 right-wing extremists employed in this sector.

The committee says the means employed in current vetting practice are out of all proportion to the results. As evidence it points to the fact that 500,000 candidates were vetted in 16 months but this had only led to the rejection of 225.

Ulrich Lüke

(Die Welt, 27 June 1978)

SPD drags out reform talks

The Social Democrats pride themselves on their loyalty to the constitution and commitment to freedom. Certainly it would do this country no harm if the political parties devoted as much energy to constitutionality and liberalism as they do to security.

It is therefore laudable that the Social Democrats have looked carefully into possibilities of liberalising the application of the Civil Servants' Act (*Beamtengesetz*) in general and the Extremists Decree in particular.

The annoying thing about this discussion is that it has gone on for so long and so far led nowhere. There are loud and constant complaints but nothing happens.

Certainly there is no shortage of proposals and suggestions for reform: vetting could be confined to areas where state secrets are involved; the judgment of a candidate's suitability could be based on his performance during his probationary period, on acts and deeds rather than on the sins of his youth or his opinions. Undoubtedly more tolerance and generosity could be shown without the entire civil service falling into communist hands. The state would then show more confidence in itself, more courage and humane rationality.

There have been half a million investigations in 16 months which have led to the rejection of about 200 candidates. There is no correlation between effort and results and a reform is overdue. The efects of this unhappy business are suffocating, in the words of Federal Constitutional Court judge Simon.

The irritating aspect of the discussion among Social Democrats is that it is conducted as if they were an opposition which could only watch the wrongdoings of the government in helpless anger. In fact the Social Democrats are a governing party, in Bonn and in the Länder. It is up to them to put their ideas into execution.

The endless palaver about snooping on people's opinions, cringing conformity and the discrepancies in the way the Extremists Decree is applied is becoming embarrassing. It is absurd if the SPD cannot act in unison on its own views and principles.

We have heard more than enough lamentations. Unless the Social Democrats can set a good example and do something, the long and torturous discussion will have only one result: the loss of the party's credibility. *Jürgen Kellermeier*

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 29 June 1978)

■ DEVELOPMENT

Bonn still gropes for clear Third World aid programme



Does Bonn's policy on the North-South division lack clear targets and priorities? During the Bundestag development aid debate the Opposition resurrected this accusation but failed to provide even the outline of an alternative.

Like the accusation, the ritual is routine. Yet fundamental views ceased years ago to be poles apart, and the clash is no longer along clear dividing lines between government and Opposition.

Social Democratic Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Free Democratic Economic Affairs Minister Otto Lambsdorff have much in common with the Opposition Christian Democrats in their scepticism over many Third World demands,

Social and Free Democratic leaders Willy Brandt and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, on the other hand, favour greater cooperation with the Third World.

But the declining band of politicians committed to backing Third World development has fallen back and many have succumbed to resignation.

For years the Opposition's development aid policies have been characterised by surprising neglect, except when the debate was on fundamentals, such as raw materials or ideology (liberation movements in Africa, for instance).

Yet even Franz Josef Strauss, right-wing leader of the Christian Social Union, or Bavarian branch of the Bonn Opposition, now wonders whether it is appropriate to discuss the North-South dialogue and commodities policy, not to mention the New International Economic Order, in free-market economic slogans.

Herr Strauss has changed his view slightly, and parliamentary criticism in Bonn is now over the efficiency of policies.

Rainer Offergeld, the new Minister of Economic Cooperation, could not agree more. But the Christian Democrats also favour allotting more aid to politically acceptable Third World countries.

This, the government feels, would be a grave mistake. Mistakes and errors of omission and commission there have undeniably been.

Take, for instance, covert support for the Portuguese in Angola and Mozambique to the bitter end. Or Bonn's wavering course on liberation movements, an issue over which the Coalition and Opposition parties still gravely disagree.

Bonn's attitude at the 1976 Unctad talks in Nairobi may prove to have been even more detrimental in the long term. This country has since run a serious risk of being cast as the Third World's bogyman. The ministry responsible for these and related issues leads as shadowy and existence as ever. The Economic Cooperation Ministry has difficulty in holding its own against other, more powerful departments, such as Economic Affairs, the Foreign Office and the Chancellor's Office.

North-South policy has traditionally been decided over the heads of the Ministers responsible. Rainer Offergeld will need to take care not to be left even further out on a limb than his predecessor.

Erhard Eppler, one of his predecessors, was very much his own man. He drafted a policy outline that in retrospect has been confirmed in many points by events.

But Herr Eppler was unable to implement much of his programme because development aid was then considered an unnecessary luxury best left to day-dreamers.

He nonetheless gained greater recognition and independence for North-South policy. There was also wider acknowledgement of his tenet that development aid was a long-term policy rather than a means of offsetting the ups and downs of economic cycles.

Egon Bahr, his successor, was a diplomat who sought greater political backing by arguing that aid was in Bonn's own economic interest. But he resigned before facing a real challenge.

Then came cheerful Marie Schlei, who trod on other people's toes even when marching in the right direction.

One cannot help concluding that Bonn has invariably either trailed slightly behind political developments or done the right thing at the wrong moment.

Small wonder Willy Brandt once said development aid policy had "become too important to be left to development aid politicians alone."

Bonn is nowhere near the UN's current development decade aid target of 0.7 per cent of GNP. Current average performance is a paltry 0.3 per cent.

Last year the private sector invested DM9,500m in the developing world. The government contributed DM3,200m, with a 23-per-cent increase in estimates this year, including DM5,300m in grants for specific projects.

Next year the Economic Cooperation Ministry's budget will increase by eight per cent at most, but new North-South policy lines are fast taking shape:–

– Hans-Dietrich Genscher's Foreign Office and Offergeld's ministry are both claiming the credit for agreeing to the moratorium on the poorest countries' crippling debts.

This demand is in the catalogue of the Group of 77, and Bonn has announced it will decide by case whether to make grants rather than low-interest loans. The first country to benefit from a non-repayable grant is Sudan, awarded DM80m.

– This new-Look policy tallies with the aim of concentrating aid more heavily on the poorest countries, with the emphasis on basic needs such as food and shelter.

All Bonn political parties agree that this basic needs policy is right, even though several threshold countries may be losers. Aid to the poorest countries went from 12 per cent of aid in 1972 to 27 per cent in 1976.

– Misgivings about stockpiling, price margins and a Common Fund as ways of stabilising commodity profit margins are gradually being dispelled.

Cautious consideration is even being given to the next step: how to help countries which produce raw materials that cannot be stockpiled and thus have to process and market finished products themselves.

Many objections to this kind of aid have been raised. One view, endorsed by Economic Affairs Minister Lambsdorff in particular, is that the free-market economy must be backet to the hilt in the Third World. Another, shared by Chancellor Schmidt and others, is that the outcome may be little more than a gigantic bureaucracy along Brussels lines.

– During the Bonn economic summit Rainer Offergeld will be advocating action on neo-protectionism, a world-wide phenomenon even apparent in EEC trade policies. He would like to ensure freer access to industrial markets for products from developing countries.

– At the OECD Bonn recently approved a $10,000m programme of annual investment in the Third World to promote new markets and foster growth.

This programme is part of a more comprehensive proposal debated for years: Marshall aid for the Third World.

Encouraging though these developments may be, they do not amount to a breakthrough. There is too much pressure on the brakes, with increasingly louder demands to link capital aid to orders from the Federal Republic "in view of current economic difficulties and high unemployment".

The Christian Democrats are quoted here but Social Democratic Labour Minister Herbert Ehrenberg agrees wholeheartedly with the Opposition.

Yet 60 per cent of aid already flows back to this country in industrial orders and there are many reasons why it would be unwise to abandon aid without strings.

Setbacks might well bedevil demand in general, and exporters would feel able to charge high prices to countries already deep in debt.

On foreign policy, Bonn can claim to be a progressive in granting aid without strings. Abandoning this principle would be a hasty and undistinguished retreat, a return to granting loans merely for short-term economic reasons.

The programme of solidarity with Southern Europe, a resounding name thought up by the Social Democrats and still only amounting to DM500m in the budget estimates, will probably prove a non-starter.

It is widely felt in Bonn, and advocates of this viewpoint have gained the upper hand, that a bilateral aid programme of this kind would be a bottomless pit and that it would be better to lend Southern Europe structural aid via Common Market schemes.

The arms lobby has lately increased its agitation for an end to government restrictions on exports. The trade unions would turn a blind eye.

In the past few exports are felt to have been frustrated by these self-imposed restrictions. But Germany can now compete with international bidders and could well clinch orders for submarines and frigates given the chance.

So Bonn's Third World policies are in a difficult transitional phase. What criteria ought to be adopted?

The Third World countries themselves have too facile an answer. They want to expand industries which already have surplus capacity, such as steel and shipbuilding.

They also endorse Western growth philosophy and clamour for Western technology, which they see as the key to salvation.

It is also too facile an equation to argue that cash now spent on arms in the industrialised world could be directly rechanneled into development aid, although there are, of course, possibilities here.

An even more facile argument is that solidarity must be reciprocal, which amounts to a demand for good behaviour in return for development aid.

Bonn could nonetheless play a key role between North and South if only it felt able to pursue more consistent development policies of its own.

But these long-term policies would have serious domestic consequences. A larger share of economic growth would need to be invested directly or indirectly in aid for Third World basic needs.

Higher prices would have to be paid for commodities and greater access granted to the home market. Changes in the division of labour between industrial and developing countries would be needed.

In other words, domestic growth and income would have to be sacrificed for Third World development.

Helmut Schmidt's view on this are straightforward. Society, he says, is not yet ready to make these sacrifices in terms of mass income.

But is there any reason why a campaign should not be waged to back aid policies which take the reciprocity of interests seriously?

Bonn's Third World policies are in a state of flux, but still vacillating between opportunism and dogmatism. There is no lack of simple formulas. What is needed is a detailed strategy.

Günter Hofmann

(Die Zeit, 30 June 1978)

■ INDUSTRY

ICI investment denial follows British union disputes



Shortly after Lower Saxony Prime Minister Ernst Albrecht announced that British chemical giant ICI was to build "the biggest industrial plant in the country" costing four billion deutschemarks near Wilhelmshaven in the next ten to 12 years, an ICI spokesman said this was "pure speculation."

ICI not only denied the reports about the extent of its medium-term investment planning, but also the details of the Wilhelmshaven projects itself. According to ICI, there are no plans for an ethylene cracker with a capacity of 350,000 tons but plans are going ahead for a plant to produce chlorine and related products,

Was it all a vote-winning pre-election exaggeration by Ernst Albrecht? Peter Schmidt, boss of German ICI, simply says: "Herr Albrecht mentioned the sum of four billion deutschemarks when signing the settlement contract, not ICI. We simply said that we would build plant worth DM800 million by 1980."

A further investment of DM200 to DM300 million had to be put off for two years because ICI had only recently been able to buy a factory to produce chlorine from the Swiss company Alusuisse. Herr Schmitt would say no more.

The caution is understandable and necessary. The British trade unions are suspicious of investments on the continent because they consider them a threat to British jobs. Besides, union officials lose influence over firms with heavy commitments abroad.

At the same time as people here were celebrating the Wilhelmshaven project, the dispute between ICI and two unions in Britain reached a point where ICI felt it had no choice but to close down its ethylene crackers. The first plant switched off on 19 June and three more are to stop production in the next four to six weeks. In this atmosphere any report about ICI investment abroad — especially the news of the Wilhelmshaven cracker — is bound to lead to an a hardening of the union line.

The dispute is a very British one. The unions are against the retraining of locksmiths and electricians who in future will operate the control room instruments. The unions insist on agreement on wage increases before they agree to retraining. This means four plants will stop production, endangering not only the jobs of thousands but also new investment programmes.

ICI management said it would have to reconsider its plans to build plant worth £480 million in Teeside. To appease union anger, the management promisted that this money would not be invested in Wilhelmshaven instead.

The reassurance was necessary. The British unions had been told that the new factory in Wilhelmshaven was part of a "twin strategy" which would complement the plant in Teeside. The unions were also told that investment abroad was good for exports and meant that the mother company acquired more know-how. They accepted this point — until the recent dispute. This has convinced ICI management of the importance of investing more abroad.

Peter Schmitt explained that as far as ICI were concerned, Germany was the number one country for investment on the continent. The British trust in "the development of the market and the sources of prosperity as well as in our political and social stability."

The Federal Republic has been playing an increasingly important part in the company's investment plans. Like the major German chemical concerns, ICI is also concentrating its attention on the American market. The proportion of investment in Britain is decreasing, though more slowly than ICI's share of total turnover.

Clear though this strategy is, the British ought by now to be thoroughly disillusioned with their investments in Germany. They have invested DM750 million and their losses now amount to DM200 million.

The fault does not lie with the Federal Republic but with the company's present production programme. Fibres (the ICI brands Crimplene and Terylene) are produced in Östringen, Kaiserslautern and Offenbach. And as all producers in this industry are in the red throughout the world, German ICI is making nothing but losses here. ICI hopes to end this by closing down some of its factories, though this too can be expensive: redundancy and other payments when the Offenbach plant closed came to DM120 million.

Schmitt and the company bosses should not allow short-term failures and economic crises to interfere with their long-term investment policy. They are expecting a boom at the beginning of the 1980s when they expect the present investment dam to burst "like a volcano" (Schmitt). ICI bosses have learnt from experience that rapid growth is impossible without considerable activity on the continent.

The company was founded in 1926 when four smaller firms merged. It was intended to be a counterweight to the German chemical giant IG Farben and for many years the firm ignored Europe and concentrated on Britain and the Commonwealth markets, where it had a virtual monopoly.

The first plants in Europe were not built until the beginning of the 60s. ICI turnover from Europe increased from £50 million in 1963 to £800 million in 1976. The British market now only provides 40 per cent of world turnover (£4 billion).

The five biggest chemical concerns in the world

Turnover in billions of DM

	worldwide	in the Fed. Rep. of Germany	No of employees
Hoechst	23,3	7,7	181,000
BASF	23,2	10,5	114,000
Bayer	21,4	6,7	170,000
Du Pont USA	19,9	1,2	131,000
ICI (GB)	18,2	1,0	164,000

Despite this new orientation, ICI is still a dwarf compared to German giants Hoechst, BASF and Bayer. Its share of the market is only 1,2 to 1,4 per cent in terms of turnover. Schmitt reckons that after the Wilhelmshaven plant is built, ICI's share of the market should increase to two per cent

The aim is to reach five per cent in 12 to 15 years, which will certainly help exports from England as well.

The question is: will the British unions play along?

Horst Kerlikowsky

(Die Zeit, 30 June 1978)

Dialogue lacking

Continued from page 5

correcting such mistakes should not be considered a weakness but a sign of the strength of a democracy. The argument by CDU legal expert Heinz Eyrich that by its disavowal of the Radicals Decree the SPD is paving the way for orthodox communists to enter the public service is neither here nor there. This is the kind of primitive argument that makes discussion on such issues of home policy impossible.

Of course there are those who do not like the SPD's conversion. But anyone who denies that there have been serious mistakes in the application of the decree is a hypocrite. A narrow-minded state bureaucracy has become a law unto itself in places with the result that candidates have often been rejected on mere suspicion rather than hard evidence.

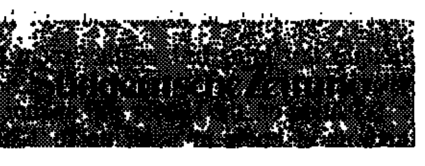
For these reasons it is good that the SPD wants to give the decree an overhaul and make its application more constitutional. The proposal that vetting should be confined to candidates for positions in areas of high security risk and that the practice of predicting candidates' future political behaviour should be dropped is welcome, as is the suggestion that the decree should not be applied in those professions (the legal profession and teaching) where the state has a training monopoly.

If the CDU-CSU continues to press its claim to represent half of the population it must look at the SPD proposals soberly and rationally. Its present policy of attacking and rejecting everything proposed by the SPD is an insult to the critical citizen.

Sönke Petersen

(Münchner Abendzeitung, 29 June 1978)

MBB still looking for dynamic new leader



A company needs to be robust to survive what Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm has been through since the long tug of war for Ludwig Bölkow's job as boss began a year ago.

After strong resistance, Bölkow resigned his post at the turn of the year. The personnel disputes were accompanied by negotiations on increased participation by industry in MBB. Behind the talks was the need for one of the industrial concerns to take a leading rôle in the concern. There is still no sign of a company willing to do so, although Plettner and Spethmann, the bosses of Siemens and Thyssen, have put in more appearances than before at important personnel and product discussions.

The participation of the Land of Bavaria and the city of Hamburg have meant that public interest in MBB, one of the major German arms manufacturers, is great. These public bodies are understandably concerned to see that jobs are preserved, even in cases where they cannot be justified on strict business grounds. The company management, on the other hand, is more concerned with profit than job preserving.

This amalgamation of company, regional and structural policy is a serious problem at MBB, though not exclusive to it.

The talks between MBB, with its complex structure and the diverging interests of its shareholders, and VFW-Fokker have been affected and delayed by precisely these conflicting interests.

The problems have not been dealt with, indeed little progress towards a solution has been made recently, despite almost permanent negotiations.

Apart from the detail, there was the tragedy of the sudden death of Helmut Langenfelder this spring, just as he was beginning to establish himself as Bölkow's successor.

The problem of a successor has not been solved. Günter Vogelsang was the man the company wanted as board chairman but he was forced to withdraw because of the complexity of the problems and the hostility of the workers' representatives on the supervisory board, who warned that they would not support him. Vogelsang's qualities as a shrewd industrial manager and his experience as chairman of the Dornier supervisory board meant he would have been ideally qualified.

The choice of Dr Ernstberger, former board chairman and now chairman of the supervisory board of the Bayrische Hypotheken- und Wechselbank, came as a surprise. One would hesitate to describe a man of his abilities as a stopgap but he may well be keeping the seat warm, perhaps for Bavarian Minister of Finance Streibl. Bavaria's interest in this concern is as great as ever. The Land promoted the first merger between Bölkow and Messerschmitt ten years ago.

When the MBB balance is published on July 12 we will probably see that the internal wrangles have had surprisingly little effect on the overall upward trend of the concern, which employs 20,000 workers. This success can be attributed to the company bosses, the middle management and the commitment of the workers. This would not have been enough however if MBB had not worked out a programme which succeeded on the market and led to numerous commissions from public bodies. This is precisely why the company needs a strong leadership which can handle a mountain of problems.

Volker Wörl

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 June 1978)

■ RESEARCH

Europe stakes a bigger 'space nation' claim

Maize, crab eggs, rice beetle larvae, stick grasshoppers and rock cress seed from Germany have been sent into outer space to find out the effects of cosic radiation.

Record-breaking flights by US and Soviet astronauts are so much more newsworthy that it is surprising this modest experiment ever hit the headlines.

The reason may be that this project, sponsored by DFVLR, the German aerospace research institute, was part of the first operational flight by the US space shuttle Enterprise.

The Enterprise will be used in a couple of years' time to launch Europe's own Spacelab, designed and built by VFW Fokker and Erno in Bremen.

And Spacelab not only represents an impressive achievement by the European aerospace industry; it is also a project with which a wider public in the countries concerned can at last identify and share a sense of pride.

Western Europe did not get off to a distinguished start in outer space. The beginnings were halting, to say the least. Three Europa rockets cost roughly DM2,000m and proved a dismal failure.

Europe's present prospects of becoming an acknowledged space "nation" are much better. Experts do not deny that Western Europe has an important contribution to make.

The public, on the other hand, seems indifferent about experiments and projects which are important and ambitious scientifically, technologically and commercially.

Take, for instance, the Helios A and B solar probes, launched in 1974. They carried out spectacular missions near the surface of the sun, testifying to a high level of technological achievement.

The Helios project shed light on interplanetary space, on the relationship between the sun and the earth's atmosphere, on solar wind and cosmic radiation, sunspots and the earth's magnetic field.

It will be years before all the data relayed by the Helios satellites have been evaluated.

Also in 1974 the Symphonie communications satellite, jointly developed by Bonn and Paris, was launched as Western Europe's first attempt to gain experience in this sector.

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT

Symphonie was not intended for commercial exploitation. Part of its mission was to try out new techniques not yet used by the global Intelsat network.

The latest showcase of European aerospace research is Meteosat, launched last November after nine years of preparation and starting a new era in worldwide weather forecasting.

It is also the first time the man in the street stands to derive immediate benefit from a space project. Every evening TV weather forecasts will now include detailed weather charts relayed by satellite.

Meteosat is sponsored by the European Space Agency (ESA) at a cost of roughly DM600m, of which Bonn is paying 25 per cent. The members of ESA are Belgium, Britain, Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland.

Meteosat and its four non-European counterparts are geostationary satellites, which means they orbit the earth at a point above the equator at the speed of the earth's rotation and so appear to be stationary.

From 36,000km (24,000 miles) above the earth they scan the entire globe, bridging gaps in meteorological observation across the oceans, polar icecaps and deserts.

Europe's Meteosat covers Europe and Africa, including (in the northern hemisphere) Central and Southern Europe and parts of the mid- and East Atlantic.

The ground station is in Darmstadt, where in addition to met charts, details of wind conditions, surface temperatures at sea level, cloud altitudes and vital statistics and steam count in the upper troposphere are relayed.

National meteorological services convert the data into weather forecasts. The German weather service in Offenbach, near Frankfurt, also feeds data to the international meteorological telecommunications system.

In the past Europe has been dependent on pictures and data relayed by US satellites for its weather forecasts. US pictures are only sent twice a day, whereas Meteosat supplies similar information every half hour.

Mind you, all these probes and satellites were launched by expensive US rockets. But European scientists are determined to change this. The European rockets may have been a disaster in the 60s and early 70s, but plans for a European launcher rocket have not been shelved.

Experts feel the development of a European launcher rocket is the crucial feature of an aerospace research policy aimed at securing independence from the United States.

Ariane is the name of the launcher rocket which critics claim is unnecessary. It is roughly 45 metres (148ft) long and designed to put a 1,600kg (3,520lb) payload into orbit.

From this elliptical orbit a satellite with a payload of approximately 750kg (1,650lb) can be put into a geostationary orbit.

The three-stage Ariane is intended to launch the Exosat scientific satellite in 1981, the ECS I communications satellite later that year, the MOROTS/B shipping navigation satellite in 1982 and Spot, the French Earth research satellite, in 1984.

Next year the Ariane is due to launch Firewheel, an ESA project developed by the Max Planck Institute in Garching near Munich, to probe the magnetosphere.

In addition to ESA projects, Bonn seems likely to pay increasing attention to communications satellites of its own. Dornier in Munich and Erno in Bremen have been commissioned by the Bonn Research Ministry to investigate direct transmissions by German TV satellites.

Gerhard Taube

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 2 July 1978)

Fleet sets off to probe Atlantic weather secrets

Several hundred scientists from all over the world are so impressed by the low pressure reported by meteorologists this year that they are heading for a spot west of Scotland with an entire research fleet.

Jasin, or Joint Sea-Air Interaction Project, began on 5 July when the Meteor sailed from Hamburg for the part of the Atlantic where many of the troughs that bring bad weather seem to take shape.

Scientists on the Meteor will anchor a network of buoys in water up to 1,500 metres (4,921ft) deep. Chains linking them will measure water movement and temperature.

Between 200 and 400km (125 and 250 miles) west of Scotland 14 research vessels from Britain, the United States, Holland, the Soviet Union and Germany will collect and evaluate these and other measurements.

Meteor, based in Hamburg, will be followed by the Kiel research vessel Poseidon and the military research vessel Planet. About 70 scientists and technicians from the Federal Republic will take part in the project.

Professor Siedler of Kiel will coordinate this country's contribution to Jasin. The bill, DM1.4m, will be paid by the Scientific Research Association.

The fleet will be joined by the newly-commissioned Mystère research aircraft, one of three circling the fleet from Machrihanish air base, Scotland, and recording aerial views of the structure of the atmosphere and cloud distribution and array.

Preliminary surveys indicate that in the two months between mid-July and mid-September the Jasin fleet will be able to investigate some 25 troughs of low pressure.

These troughs, accompanied by high winds that ruffle the sea, are the most interesting and important of the phenomena scientiess have set out to investigate.

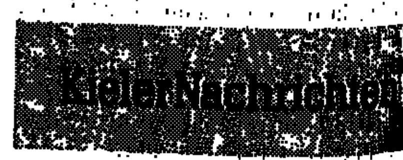
Preliminary work was started last year by British and Dutch scientists who determined what extremes might be encountered.

Instruments have since been set in accordance with the current speeds, water movements, swell (up to six metres, or 20ft) and other factors expected.

Jasin forms part of Garp, the Global Atmospheric Research Programme, in which international meteorologists and oceanographers have joined to learn more about energy exchanges between the atmosphere and the sea.

Details are being gathered for a computer atmospheric model to improve day-to-day and medium-range weather forecasting.

In tropical areas of the Atlantic energy is fed to the atmosphere from the



warm water and humidity of the ocean in the form of eddies heading from east to west.

In the North Atlantic scientists want to probe weather fronts as they head east in an area well out to sea and undisturbed by land or seabed.

The fronts part company with part of their energy, stirring up the sea a little and changing water temperatures, which in turn affect atmospheric processes that influence the weather.

Once scientists are sufficiently familiar with the repercussions of low pressure fronts on the condition of the sea to quantify them, they should be able to forecast sea surface temperatures.

These temperatures are one of the major factors in any atmospheric model to improve weather forecasting.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 5 July 1978)

■ FISHING

Fish farming can replace trawling scientists say

More than 300 scientists from three dozen countries at a conference in Hamburg stressed the importance of fish farming at a time when fish stocks are being depleted and the law of the sea is in a state of flux.

Fish farming and research into bridging a coming seafood shortage are gaining in importance. Conference chairman Professor Klaus Tiews told journalists' "Aquaculture is a promising alternative to trawling."

Professor Tiews, director of the Fisheries Research Institute, Hamburg, said research had so far been conducted mainly in Europe, America and Japan.



Trout and herring filleting machine manufactured in Lübeck. (Photo: Baader)

Scientists are keen to ensure that their growing discipline does not lose sight of its objective. A large number of joint experiments are planned over the next few years.

They will include trials of shoal finding devices for inland waters. The Finnish government is placing several lakes at the scientists' disposal for experiments.

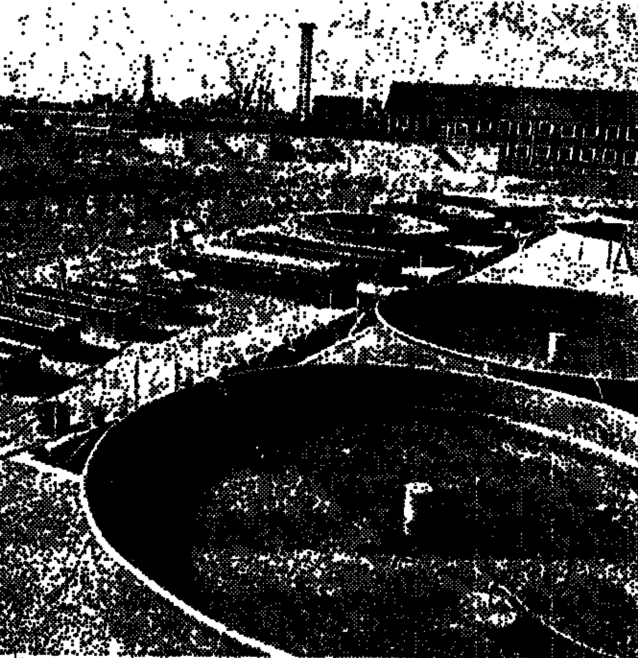
Internationally coordinated large-scale trials will also deal with fish feeding. "We have yet to find out," Professor Tiews says, "whether it is better to feed farm fish twice a day or six times."

Views also differ on the light in which fish develop the heartiest appetite. A balanced diet is also important, otherwise fish fall ill as humans do.

Fishmeal, an increasingly scarce commodity, need no longer be the staple diet. Poultry waste and krill meal are alternatives. Yeast proteins refined from petroleum are also readily eaten, Professor Tiews says.

Many farm fish grow fatter than their counterparts that breed naturally. Farm-bred carp are now being made to swim against an artificial current to shed weight that does not find favour with consumers, he says.

Farm-bred fish nonetheless have a tremendous advantage. "Of all domesticated animals they are the most efficient fodder and energy converters." A kilogram of dry fodder can already be converted into a kilogram of wet fish. In pig-farming the ratio is three to one and in cattle-farming six to one. Professor Tiews has high hopes of the eel, but other species are also being experimentally farmed at Ahrensburg, near Hamburg. They include the sea bass from Southern Europe, the Channel catfish from America and the rabbit fish from the Philippines.



Eel ponds at Emden, near the Dutch border, a promising aquaculture project sponsored by the Fisheries Research Institute in Hamburg. (Photo: Kuhlmann)

Fish farming has ample scope for expansion in Germany, he feels. The most promising prospect is farming in warm water pumped from power stations and factories.

Eels are being farmed with encouraging results in brackish water in the inland port of Emden, near the Dutch border.

Professor Tiews convened the Hamburg conference as president of the European inland fishery advisory commission to the FAO. He says fish farming output can be stepped up from six million tons a year to 30 million tons.

Three thousand tons of fish a year are currently caught for consumption in rivers and inland waterways in this country. A further 10,000 tons of trout and carp are farmed.

The annual catch is worth DM120m, or a quarter of the proceeds of sea fishing. The increase in fish farming has made its mark on industry. Delegates to the Hamburg conference saw in Lübeck a factory manufacturing all kinds of processing equipment for fresh-water fish, including machines for killing eels and carp and a trout filleting machine.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 29 June 1978)

ON SHOW

Exhibits show off 7,000 years of Mesopotamian culture

The Roemer-Pelizaeus Museum in Hildesheim is holding an exhibition on Sumeria, Assyria and Babylon on loan from the Iraq Museum in Baghdad and representing 7000 years of Mesopotamian art and culture.

In recent years there has been great interest in the art and culture of Egypt. A major exhibition on Egypt is at the Villa Hügel in Essen now. It is surprising that there is comparatively little interest in the art and culture of Mesopotamia, which is older than that of Egypt.

The two main reasons are that there are few examples of ancient Mesopotamian culture in West German museums and those to be seen are not on the same aesthetic level as the Egyptian exhibits. Then there is the fact that relations between this country and Iraq have been cool in recent years. The last major exhibition on Mesopotamia was 14 years ago.



Head of a prince, wrongly thought in the past to be that of Sargon, founder of the Akkad dynasty, on show in Hildesheim. (Photo: Jürgen Weber)

Looking at this exhibition, we realise that this ancient country has more in common with our culture than with Egypt. Mesopotamia, the land between the Tigris and the Euphrates, is where the neolithic revolution took place in which nomads settled down as farmers. It is probable that writing was invented in Mesopotamia, that the science of mathematics was first used, and that speculative thought first took place here.

Whereas Egypt was protected by the desert and had safe borders, Mesopotamia was a land literally without borders a land constantly exposed to attack and living dangerously.

Egypt gave the world the central metropolis and Mesopotamia gave the world the city culture. The ancient Egyptian lived optimistically in the consciousness of eternity, whereas the ancient Mesopotamian, once his culture had developed beyond the early stage, soon became aware of the transitoriness of life. This is the country where existential fear, superstition and astrology were born.

We can see the difference between these two views of life in art! Although the Mesopotamians never got beyond ceremonial art, many of their works could have been produced by modern sculptors. This cannot be said of ancient Egyptian art.

The Hildesheim exhibition takes us from 3300 BC, when the Sumerians established the first high culture in the history of humanity, to 650 AD, when the Islamic conquest put an end to the history of the ancient orient in Mesopotamia. The organisers have wisely arranged the exhibition chronologically because Mesopotamian history is far more difficult than Egyptian for the layman to follow.

The Mesopotamian empire sometimes went through periods of weakness, sometimes fell to foreign conquerors, sometimes spread out far beyond its usual borders. There is a confusion of states warring and coalescing and short-lived empires breaking up into smaller units.

A large number of alabaster idols and bowls from the sixth millenium before Christ have been found, indicating a high degree of organisation because the Sumerians, unlike the Egyptians, had to transport the alabaster and stone over long distances.

The oldest exhibit at the Hildesheim Museum is the top half of a statuette of a man, an early Sumerian work from 3300 to 3000 BC. The fixed expression, the bushy rectangular beard and wide eyes are typical of an artistic tradition which lasted for the next 3000 years.

It is still a matter of controversy whether the Sumerians were an indigenous race or not. Indeed, we know very little indeed about them. The Old Testament locates the Garden of Eden, the place where man came to consciousness of himself and of his tragic existence, here. Uruk, today called Warka, was the centre of this cukture. Nearby were cities such as Eridu and Nippur and the legendary Ur.

During this period work began on the Ziggurat, the temple on which the Tower of Babel is based. God is said to have punished hubris in building this temple.

The Sumerian world changed after 3000 BC. Semitic groups came into the country from the north and this was the period of the great city states. In Utuk the Gilgamesh epic, one of the earliest poems ever written, was composed and retains its linguistic force even today. At the same time the pyramids were being built in Egypt. At Hildesheim we see one male and one female god-figure, both found in a temple in the city once know as Eshunna. From 2330 BC on the first Mesopotamian empire was founded under the rule of Sargon of Akkad, a descendant of Semitic immigrants. This empire included the north. One of the outstanding exhibits from this period is the head of ruler, founded from bronze or copper.



Ivory sphinx inlaid with gold dating from 800 to 700 BC on the Hildesheim exhibition of Mesopotamian culture. (Photo: Katalog)

The head, part of a complete statue, was probably deliberately damaged in antiquity, a sign that the end of the first great empire was nigh. In 2200 BC it succumbed to the Guteans from the Zagros mountains, who destroyed the capital, Akkad, so completely that it has never been found.

In the south, there was a Sumerian renaissance in art and politics and for a hundred years the city of Ur was the metropolis. The finest exhibit from this period is King Shulgi's duck, a weight used for trade. After 2000 BC, the old city states gradually came under the dominion of immigrant races, the rise of Babylon began and the Sumerian tradition declined.

There are a large number of clay tablets in cuneiform script from this period at Hildesheim, most of which record business transactions. Georg Friedrich Grotefend a headmaster, who died in Hanover, laid the foundations for the deciphering of this script in 1802. Babylon became the dominant power in the 18th century before Christ under the rule of Hammurabi, the great lawgiver. Again a great empire came into being and again it was destroyed by a race from the Tagros mountains, this time the Cassites, who came down on to the plain after the Hittites from Asia Minor had destroyed Babylon in 1594 BC.

The exhibition then makes a huge leap in time. It almost completely ignores the Cassites, who were quickly assimilated and had to cede power in Babylon again in the 12th century BC. It passes over the rise of the Assyrians in the north and the period of Assyrian domination and comes to the 8th century BC, the period of the Neo-Assyrians.

This omission is justified, because the finds from this period are few and Mesopotamia was a mere political province at this time. The Egyptians and, until 1200 BC, the Hittites, were the dominant forces.

A winged sphinx from the 7th or 8th century BC shows the powerful Egyptian influence on Assyrian art. By this time the Assyrians were again a major force. The cruelty of Assyrian warfare is legendary to this day. The influence of their empire reached as far as Babylon and at times even as far as Egypt.

On the other hand, superstition and fear reached their high point. Testimony comes from the statues of the god Bes from Egypt and the wind demon Pazuzu. Not even Assyrian warlust and cruelty could prevent Assur being destroyed by the combined forces of the Medes and the Babylonians in 609.

Then came the last indigenous empire, of which the bull relief of Ishtar Tor from the reign of Nebuchadnezzar II gives testimony. The artistic tradition persisted here for over a thousand years. In 539 BC the Persian invasion put an end to the Mesopotamian states as independent entities.

The Persian period is not documented in this exhibition. Gradually the ancient art disappeared and after the invasion by Alexander the Great in 330 BC, the period of Hellenic infuence began. Two statues of Hercules from the first and third century AD testify to this.

From 250 BC on the Parthian empire began to dominate the area. The Parthians conquered Mesopotamia in 141 BC.

In 53 BC they defeated the consu

Continued on page 11

Continued from page 10

Crassus, their descendants captured the emperor Valerian in 250 AD and they were the only serious rivals to the Romans in that part of the world. One of the largest exhibits at Hildesheim is the statue of a Parthian king. A statuette of a woman clearly shows Hellenic influence.

From 222 onwards the Sassanids, till then the vassals of the Parthians, took over from their former masters and remained in control until 634 AD. When Islam conquered Mesopotamia. This was the end of Mesopotamia, although there are a few exhibits from this period.

The cultural centres of Mesopotamia had begun to fall to ruins during the period of Parthian rule, and the Mongolian invasions of the 13th century with their immense destruction and massacres finished them off altogether. Sand covered the ruins of Babylon, Assur, Niniveh and Ur, until archeologists in the 19th century began to rescue this important period of history from oblivion. This is a task which, even today, is still in its early stages.

Ekkehard Böhm

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 June 1978)

Ancient Euphrates town opens doors to visitors

The museum of prehistoric and ancient history in the Langhans building in Charlottenburg Castle in Berlin is showing finds from the once flourishing trading town of Habuba-Kabora on the Euphrates, where 6000 to 8000 people lived and worked 5000 years ago.

This Syrian site was excavated by 23 international research teams included the German Oriental Society (based in Berlin) from 1969 to 1975. It is the only town to date from the period before 3500 BC whose fortifications and houses's could be reconstructed exactly on the basis of the finds.

The town of Habuda-Kariba only existed for about 150 years before the inhabitants left for unknown reasons. The clay brick houses collapsed covering everything inside, which meant that the archeologists found the contents perfectly preserved.

The remains of the town of Habuba-Kabira were rescued just before this part of the Euphrates was flooded as part of a new dam scheme, finance for the German part of the excavations coming from the Volkswagen Foundation.

There is a 1:400 scale model of the city on the exhibition, which is divided into sections on house and town construction, household tools, agriculture, cattle breeding and fishing, storage vessels, handicrafts, defence, early written culture and trade. A comparison with modern building methods shows that the problems of clay brick building are still solved just as they were 5000 years ago.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 1 July 1978)

THEATRE

Putting mental illness in front of the audience

On 10 June a play opened in Frankfurt called *The Administered Soul. The Frankfurt Theatre Tells Tales of Everyday Lunacy and the Lunacy of Everyday Life.* The public flocked to see it, all tickets were sold well before the first performance and it was such a success that it was transferred from a small theatre to the main Playhouse.

I was interested in the question: how do actors handle this subject and how does the audience react?

In April these actors read my book *Psychiatry Report.* It was meant as background reading for their performance of Pinter's *Caretaker.* In the book patients describe how inhuman psychiatry can be; how the mentally ill are struck by the guillotine of diagnosis and put into asylums; how the protest against incessantly having to take pills is silenced; how doctors act not as healers or therapists but as state prosecutors rooting out "defects."

The actors were involved and effected. For years they had been preoccupied the subject of madness and society. They were tired of merely reading reports on the miserable state of psychiatry and wanted to act. They decided to perform a play dealing with this subject and it was at this stage that I heard about this group and went along to see what they were doing.

I know the theatre only from the perspective of the theatregoer who sits in the darkness and watches figures moving around on the stage playing their parts. At my first meeting with this group I see people I do not recognise as actors because they are not made up, people who are as thoroughly acquainted with psychiatric literature as if they were keen students of the subject.

They are producing the play themselves. Someone reads an account by a 17-year-old girl, who describes how the inmates of a closed psychiatric unit are given the privileges of fools. She describes the futility of her daily timetable, waiting from one meal to the next waiting for the doctor, who has no time, waiting from one meal to the next, waitfighting against the futility of an institution which has written the patients off as crazy. Then the nurse comes along and says: "Now be reasonable."

The response of the actors to this experience is such as I have only encountered in discussions with mental patients and their relatives. They react physically to their situations. A young actress who has had to take over a colleague's part reads for the first time a text about psychiatry and its relation to violence, explaining that the history of psychiatry is also the history of torture. Patients were left to starve, left without drink, left shivering with cold, they were branded with red hot irons, whipped, put on the treadmill, put into straitjackets, electric currents were put through their brains (electro-shock goes under the name of "flooding therapy" these days). The practice of brain surgery on mental patients is becoming fashionable, too. The actress sits is a corner reading the text quietly. She crumples up, says nothing, tears roll down her face. All right, some will say, tears are part of her job. On the other hand, I have never seen a psychiatrist weeping because he was so moved by an account of the inhuman practices in asylums.

The actors decide not to include the text of the 17-year-old girl. They find the text too powerful and feel that by enacting it they would reduce its force. They are sensitive, alert and politically aware in their treatment of the subject. We talk about the play and begin to recount our experiences with psychiatry. Everyone has had direct experience of psychiatry.

They talk about someone living in their flat who was taken away by the police, about a mother, child or friend whom they helped for as long as they could until they had no choice but to have them sent to an asylum. The actors described how they felt they were traitors, how completely helpless and frustrated they felt at not being able to do anything. They had the feeling that they were consigning their relatives or friends to prison. (In official language patients are "committed" to asylums).

This was an important discovery for me as we worked on the play. A climate of mutual trust was created in which we could describe our experiences quite openly, experiences we would otherwise have wanted to keep secret, repress, deny.

Many members of the ensemble want to take part in this play, but it is difficult to find a time that suits them all as they are invulved in various other productions, they have to rehearse and act. They work on this play in their own time, for nothing. I waive my fees and my editor, who is involved in the organisation of the project, persuades the publishers of my book to waive royalties.

The technical side of the theatre is the only one to refuse to play along. This means the actors have to change the scenes themselves, the stage set is built and painted on a Sunday, husbands, wives, children come along and help. People bring wine and cook. The work we do together brings a strong sense of community.

Having to do everything ourselves and then meet deadlines bring problems of which the audience has no idea. We could not have a full rehearsal, only rehearsals of various groups. The whole play had not been performed in full until before the opening. So we do not know how it is going to turn out.

We decide that our performance is not just going to be directed against psychiatry. How insane we must all be, we say, to live with all the contradictions in our lives, our environment, our society. We "normal" people have to repress so many of the injustices, sufferings, frustrations and insane things that happen to us in everyday life. There is so much lunacy produced by society and this lunacy is accepted as perfectly normal because it takes place within the norms society has determined.

The lunacy of everyday life: a scene from the successful Frankfurt production *The Administered Soul.* (Photo: Mara Eggert)

Is it not lunacy that we destroy ourselves every day, that we are alien to ourselves and to our fellow human being. We have to be alien, because our neighbour is our rival and we have to climb over him if we want to reach the top.

This realisation changes the play. It no longer concentrates exclusively on the fear of the psychiatric patient when he enters the asylum. The fear and dreads begins in our everyday life, in our lack of relation to one another.

We want to show the root causes of disintegration. We want the audience to laugh and then to realise that it is themselves they are laughing about. Maybe that will teach them to laugh. Let's begin with a few jokes about mental patients. And when the audience come in, they hear the hit song "You're crazy, my child."

The day of the premiere. At breakfast I read a news agency report: "No more ghettos for mental patients. Italy does away with non-private asylums." We meet that morning in the theatre. Work on the set begins. Those not involved in this go into the restroom which is unpleasantly reminiscent of doss houses I have spent the night in. It is in the cellar and you have to go through a maze of corridors. It is a depressing room with plastic knives and forks on the table. The common room in this temple of the muses is bare, part of the insane plastic everyday world.

It takes a while before we can rehearse the technical side. It is already afternoon when we begin. The audience is already in the theatre and in the foyer discussing the rehearsal. We decide to drop certain scenes. In the break I hear two actresses talking: "I am so nervous." "Why don't you take a valium, then?". This too is a part of the lunacy of everyday life.

The performance itself: the audience laugh, just as we wanted. They laugh loudest at the account one of the actors (Peter Danzeisen) gives of his own experience: "I have been living in this city for five years now and I can't complain about the number of anxieties I've been through in this time." A man wanted to jump to his death off a bridge but just before he leapt his suicide note blew out of his hand. No-one would find out what his motive was, so he decided not to jump: "To tranquillise him they brought him to an asylum."

A man goes berserk over the weekend but the authorising office *(Ordnungsamt)* for mental patients is only open from Monday to Friday during normal working hours. The emergency doctor does not come. Only when he starts throwing crockery into the street does anything happen. They all turn up at once — three fire engines, the doctor and the police who put him in handcuffs and take him away for psychiatric treatment.

In the discussion after the performance some of the audience say they feel guilty about laughing in places which were no laughing matter. We sit at the edge of the stage and at first we just listen. The roles have been reversed. Now the audience is active and the actors listen. Almost the entire audience stayed behind for the discussion. We want to make further changes in the play. Today I read the first reviews. The play was a success. The *Frankfurter Neue Presse* critic writes: "The Frankfurt Playhouse is clearly going to end the present season with a play which makes us think because even the actors are amazed at its success."

We will continue to work on the performance and try to create a forum where the mentally ill, helpers, and those who work in psychiatric institutions can talk to one another and to those not directly effected. We will also continue to talk about ourselves and the insanity of everyday life.

Ernst Klee

(Die Zeit, 23 June 1978)

■ THINKERS

Konrad Lorenz on evolution, ecology and watching geese

Konrad Lorenz, born in 1903, is one of the pioneers of comparative behavioural science and was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1973. Among his best-known works are *King Solomon's Ring* (1952) and *On Aggression* (1966). Lorenz recently visited Lindau for the annual meeting of Nobel prize-winners and discussed some of the controversies in his field.

Q: *Professor Lorenz, the title of one your books is Darwin Was Right. For some time now biologists such as Richard Dawkins of Oxford have said that you misinterpret Darwin when you say that selection favours the species. Sociobiologists believe that selection does not favour the species but the individual or, more precisely, the gene, always behaves egoistically.*

A: These people solve the problems by denying the existence of facts which do not suit them. There are so many forms of altruistic behaviour, for example, fair fighting, defending one's friends and a whole number of other things that can only be based on group selection, that do not benefit the individual at all but the group.

Q: But they benefit the individual as well as the group?

A: They benefit the individual only indirectly. The problem is this. At the cell level in all animals which live any length of time, and especially in vertebrates, we find mechanisms whose purpose is to eliminate asocial, nonconformist elements. These are antibodies. All immune reactions have the primary function of suppressing asocial elements. We would all die of debility or cell degeneration if it were not for these immune reactions. On the level of human society, we do not know a single tribe, a single culture, however primitive, which does not have taboos, laws and customs to prevent asocial behaviour. As for the social behaviour of animals, we find, for example, that the deer has a strict ritual for fighting. If one animal were to fight to the death, this would be of benefit to the individual which won. This would mean that certain forms of behaviour would be developed and would predominate. But that is not the case. We do not know why this is so. I have often asked myself what could be the reason for this and never found the answer. People like Dawkins have ridiculed me by saying that these fight rituals are figments of my imagination. To say this is simply impertinence.

Q: What do you think of Smith's theory of the aggressive hawk and the peaceful dove who balance one another out?

A: If this strategy exists, it must be possible to observe it somewhere. I am an animal sociologist by profession and ever since my early childhood I have been studying social animals with special regard to aggressive behaviour and reactions. I have never seen these hawks and these doves. I do not see that in a social species of animal which fights according to rituals that there are different kinds of animals.

Q: You once intimated that there could be such a thing as intellectual evolution but you were very cautious in what you sid.

A: I am always very cautious when I speculate. You see the whole phenomenology of values is a huge unexplored area. From a scientific point of view, it is perhaps unwise to move into this field. All the same I am now writing a book on the subject.

Q: The book will be called *Der Böse (The Evil). This follows your study of* the "so-called evil". What then is the real evil?

A: The book is an attempt to analyse the phenomenology of evaluation, the various parameters. You see the interesting thing is that we cannot even define the various parameters of values. You cannot even define what the words sick and healthy men. You cannot define what a higher and what a lower animal is, what a high and a low culture is, what a higher and lower form of animals is. This is an interesting paradox which I have only come across relatively recently. It was as if, to quote Wittgenstein's simile, I wanted to cut a figure in the ice with a red hot knife. You can't do it. The ice melts away under the knife. Still, in this book I try to analyse the parameters for health as the precondition of survival and for a high level of cultural development which very often is achieved only at the cost of health.

The more highly developed a culture is, the more susceptible it is to disease. Maybe, to use an anglicism, I have bitten off more than I can chew here and the only excuse I can offer is that no one else has done it.

Q: When you took on the job of spokesman of the Ecology Group in 1972 you said that it was essential to influence politicians by mobilising people. Do you believe you were successful?

A: Yes, definitely. A child learning to do compound interest in maths must understand that exponential growth in finite space is impossible. As an optimist I maintain that consciousness of the dangers of growth is increasing exponentially. Twenty years ago I had no idea. Twenty years ago I thought people who criticised the philosophy of growth were appalling merchants of doom and pessimists. Yet they were so right. Every taxi drivers knows this these days.

Q: Is not far too little happening?

A: Something will only happen when everyone knows. But knowledge is increasing. Here at the conference of Nobel Prizewinners in Lindau I have been asked six times about the problem of exponential growth. Three years ago no-one was interested.

Q: Your fellow Nobel Prize-winner George Wald has said here that we live in a society leading to death. Wald mentions cancer, atomic power stations, nuclear armament and says that all the governments of the world are mere handmaidens of multinational concerns.

A: I don't think Wald believes that we are all doomed. He would not preach if he did not hope. Wald is perfectly right when he says that our problems today are ethical. You see our great problem is that a hundred highly respectable people get together, as the board of a company for example, and behave, collectively, like an intelligent criminal. In the collective no one feels responsible.

Konrad Lorenz and goose: I am a freelance scientist, a man who gets paid for his hobby. (Photo: Archiv)

Q: Professor Lorenz, for the last five years you have been living in your childhood home in Altenberg near Vienna. How do you spend your days?

A: Early in the morning I write. Then I go into the aquarium and feed the animals. Around midday I sleep for quite a long time. Then I work intensively. Then I go out for a walk. But in future I want to go walking more and spend less time writing. I don't get enough movement. I have to lose weight too. Then I go to the goose reserve in Grünau five or six days a month.

Q: What does music, for example, mean to you?

A: It does not mean very much to me. But my wife is very musical, so we listen to music and go to the opera. You see I am a freelance scientist. I'm like a freelance artist, who is the only man who gets money for his hobby. Peace for me is sitting in front of an aquarium or a goose pond and researching.

Christoph Peck
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 July 1978)

Nobel minds meet at Lindau

Lindau in Swabia has just played host to some of the finest minds of our time the annual gathering of Nobel laureates. This year 27 attended.

The charm of these gatherings is that the Nobel Prize-winners either report on work in progress or talk on subjects of their choice. The range of topics dealt with this year was extraordinarily wide.

Professor Rosalin Yalow of New York, the second woman to win the Nobel Prize for medicine, gave a detailed account of the method she has developed to prove the presence of small amounts of biologically interesting matter, for example, hormones, enzymes and proteins. She did not confine herself to a description of what is called the Radioimmunassay test but showed how the method of examination opened up new horizons in clinical medicine. It means many illnesses can be spotted long before they break out by analysing a drop of blood. Early diagnosis is of paramount importance in therapy. The Radioimmunassay test involves radioactively marked reagents and is based on processes involved in the rejection of transplants and the body's defence mechanicsms against infection.

The process, in which external matter is traced, identified and destroyed, was refined by Professor Yalow for the purpose of the quantitative determination of biologically interesting material.

Hundreds of hormones can already be identified by the method. Professor Yalow said it could be further refined to pinpoint and identify other substances.

Radioimmunassay is already one of the standard methods of clinical medicine. By means of it doctors can identify the viruses which lead to jaundice after blood transfusions. "Infected" blood can be identified in routine tests and replaced. The technique is also used in America in pre-natal tests to spot certain malfunctions of the thyroid gland which occur in 1 in 8000 births in the USA.

The list of diseases that could be diagnosed early is much longer however. Professor Yalow's list contains a number of rare diseases against which medicine has been helpless to date. Leprosy, for example, can be diagnosed long before it breaks out. This means this dangerous tropical disease can be cured in the earliest stages. On the other hand, the test can only diagnose diseases when there is a suspicion that the disease is present. The technique has to be specially prepared for each individual case.

Radioimmunassay is ideally suited, Professor Yalow says, for the analysis of biological fine structures. Much of what we know about metabolic processes in our bodies was only discovered as a result of this method. And the potential of the technique is by no means exhausted. Professor Yalow sees great possibilities in the early diagnosis of infectious diseases and perhaps one day in tracing organic changes brought about by malignant growths of cells.

The significance of the method became even clearer in a lecture by Professor Ulf von Euler of Stockholm University on pain transmission in the nervous system. At the end of his highly specialised account he mentioned, in passing as it were, that gastrin and insulin, two metabolic hormones, are also to be found in nerve ends. Professor Yalow has specialised in proving precisely this about these two substances.

Not all the lectures at the meeting showed as graphically the potential effects of one discovery in clinical medicine and research. In some lectures scientific considerations predominated, and the practical applicability of the subjects discussed was not apparent. Bavarian Land Prime Minister Alphons Goppel pointed out in his speech of welcome that the "scientific aristocracy" was fully aware of its duty to society.

Professor Werner Forssmann spoke of the problem of the death sentence which some now want to reintroduce in a lecture based largely on his own experience and observation.

Professor Georg Wald of Cambridge, Massachusetts, told the meeting that man could not live with nuclear energy.

Konrad Müller-Christiansen
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 July 1978)

■ PEOPLE

Landshut makes merry as Duke George weds again

Münchner Merkur

It was 1475 and America was not even a glint in Christopher Columbus's eye, but the Wittelsbachs, the Bavarian royal family, were well versed in *Ostpolitik*.

Duke George the Rich got the hand of the King of Poland's daughter despite the dynastic ambitions of the King of Hungary. He was so delighted at the successful dynastic match-making that he invited the townspeople of Landshut to eat, drink and be merry at his expense for a week.

Aristocrats, clergymen and burghers tucked in with a will, polishing off 333 oxen, 490 calves, 1,133 sheep, 1,537 lambs, 684 roast pigs, 11,500 geese, 40,000 chickens, hundredweights of eggs, spices, fat and other calorie-rich delicacies, washing down the comestibles with countless barrels of wine.

While the townsfolk were eating away to their hearts' content, the nobility gathered in the building that now houses the municipal savings bank to witness not only the wedding but also the bedding, as appears to have been the custom.

The VIPs included Kaiser Friedrich, the Holy Roman Emperor, whose main reason for attending was to borrow cash, a commodity of which he was perenially short, and an assembly of dukes, margraves, counts palatinate and bishops, including the Archbishop of Salzburg.

Times change. Nowadays there cannot be many people who would consider spending DM25m on a wedding feast to be celebrated by an entire town. That is why the people of Landshut, the capital of Lower Bavaria, decided to resurrect this memorable event in the annals of the town.

Seventy-five years ago there was a trade fair in the town and local people organised a procession featuring the historical figures, ranging from the bride and groom to Kaiser Friedrich and even extras like the gypsies who joined in the merrymaking.

The pageant proved so successful that it became a regular event in the Landshut calendar. Once every three years the town goes medieval.

Months before the pageant 1,300 historic costumes are taken out of mothballs in the ducal castle and spruced up. All of them are modelled on genuine medieval dress.

Then the joiners and carpenters move in, knocking up the rostrum and other props for the jousting tournament. Saddlers are called in to repair and decorate the horses' bridles. Potters in and around Landshut make the historic beakers and beer steins, many of which come to grief during the festivities.

All the preparations are the work of volunteers. One of the few professionals associated with the project is the manager of the municipal theatre, who stages the pageant. The 1978 Landshut spectacular began on 24 June with a salute fired from a castle perched on a hill overlooking the town.

Thirteen hundred Landshut people will be wearing historic costume for three weeks, playing anything from leading roles to walk-on parts happily and unselfconsciously.

Josef Obermaier, the student son of a Landshut marble dealer, is the groom.

Continued on page 14

Duke George the Rich gets the hand of the King of Poland's daughter as the people of Landshut relive the festivities of 1745. (Photo: dpa)

Town takes a pools fling to pay bills

Weilburg on the Lahn, a small town north of Frankfurt between Limburg and Wetzlar, is short of cash — a problem with which most of us can sympathise.

But few local authorities are blessed with a council that decides to enter for the German equivalent of the football pools in a bid to balance the budget.

The idea came from a councillor who runs a travel agency and arrived at a council meeting with his Lotto coupon and the first week's stake of DM13.60.

The taypayer's money cannot be wagered on games of chance, of course, so the councillors, a dozen of them, plus the burgomaster, pay the stake out of their own pockets.

A pool of 13 is sure to be a lucky number, the councillors feel. They are now wagering DM45 a week.

Winnings will be credited to the town council under the heading Miscellaneous Revenue. The council is convinced there will be a win sooner or later.

But councillors cannot spend their time at meetings filling in Lotto coupons, so the town clerk, Herr Schmidt, has been entrusted with the task.

He is keeping a detailed record of incomings and outgoings to ensure that there are no arguments over any winnings.

If other local authorities would like to follow suit, Burgomaster Abt of Weilburg and his fellow-councillors will be happy to supply further information.

Dieter Fluck
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 21 June 1978)

Villagers take a snooze in church – by invitation

Matthias Hartenstein, 35, vicar of Bosau, a village on the shores of Plön lake, Schleswig-Holstein, likes nothing better than to see his pews full of parishioners fast asleep.

Holidaymakers too are more than welcome. "Do something for your health," posters proclaim. "The vicar of Bosau invites you to slumber in the village church. Sleep is a particularly effective therepy for nervous trouble, sickness, cardiac and circulatory disorders, etc."

From 4pm to 5pm every afternoon tape recording of Bach and Mozart provide restful background music in the 826-year-old church. On the first day of the sleep-in 20 people turned up for an hour's rest, and before long many of them were pushing out the z's.

Matthias Hartenstein will hear nothing of the idea being unusual. "In days gone by everyone went to church," he says, "and someone or other invariably fell fast asleep, especially during the sermon."

In a recent sermon in his picturesque church on a promontory in the lake he reasoned that sleep in church is surely better than sleep that has to be induced by barbiturates.

The vicar does not feel that he is in any way unusual either. True, he may not dress sombrely, but in his fundamental outlook he reckons to be conservative.

Christ was born with something to give mankind and this something is what the Church would like to share with parishioners — nothing more and nothing less, he says.



Dozing to the strains of Bach: the vicar of Bosau surveys his languid flock (Photo: Anneliese Schneider-Siemt)

Swedish experiments with music by Bach and Mozart gave Hartenstein the idea of the sleep-in. Experts agree that music by these two composers is particularly restful.

Matthias Hartenstein is nothing if not imaginative. He and his church first hit the headlines not long after he took over the parish in 1974.

He claimed to have learnt that a valuable sundial was missing from the church's inventory. The vestry board offered a reward of DM1,000 for information leading to its recovery.

Bosau and the missing sundial were news all over the North. The following year another little joke gained even wider attention. He claimed that treasure dating back to the Thirty Years War had been found in Bosau — loot buried by Gustav Adolf's Swedes. A Swedish TV camera team was sent along to cover the hoax.

Last year Hartenstein's bright ideas saddled him with the nickname "the schnapps vicar." The congregation had donated a volcanic drift block for the cemetery, complete with the inscription: "Sooner or later everyone ends up here."

In return for the donation the vicar promised every villager a schnapps or a lemonade — and a double for the burgomaster.

"In this part of the world schnapps play the part wine plays in the South," the vicar explains. "And when you are given a present you must surely return the compliment."

This is how he sees it, and after a certain amount of debate the congregation agreed.

This year sleep has replaced schnapps. Matthias Hartenstein has a musical background. He originally aimed to become an opera singer and he still performs in the church choir.

Taped music has often been played when the church is open to visitors, as it often is, since 60,000 people a year visit Bosau church.

The vicar noticed that taped organ music was soothing and decided to organise a sleep-in. His initial print run of 80 posters was soon exhausted and more have been ordered.

Karsten Pflog
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 24 June 1978)

■ SOCIETY

Teenage group replacing family study finds

A study by a group from the University of Konstanz among a representative sample of 665 pupils and apprentices on how young people spend their leisure time shows the large part played by the social group.

The survey was in a town with a population of 45,000 with good leisure facilities.

There is much discussion in the mass media in West Germany about how young people spend their leisure time but there have been few empirical studies on the subject.

The study shows that friendships and relations between young people are extremely stable. The age group plays an important part during puberty and in the next phase when young people move away from their parents. It provides security and functions as a kind of "emotional escape."

Social worker Johannes Schilling's report says most of the activities of teenagers outside the family home are in groups, a fact to which youth workers have not paid enough attention.

Young people never go alone to political meetings, films or other events. They always go on groups, or in twos at least.

When asked how long their group had existed, one third put a cross against a month to a year, another third said two to three years, 25 per cent said



more than three years and 15 per cent could not remember how long their friendship had lasted.

These groups tend to be single sex in early years and to become mixed as children get older. Usually boys bring their girlfriends into the group. It is less usual for girls to bring their boyfriends into their clique.

A clique is generally understood as a group of ten or more people. There are usually more apprentices and trainees than pupils in these cliques, something Schilling explains by the fact that working youths usually have regular girlfriends earlier than schoolboys. These cliques are not formed on a class or a job basis. Pupils keep in touch with former classmates who have started work.

The average amount of free time young people had was four hours a day, not much more than the average adult. Those four hours include so-called semi-leisure activities such as work at home, in the garden or in the family business. Girls have to do this kind of work far more often than boys and they also work harder at school and in their jobs, which means they have less free time than boys. Most of those asked said they helped their parents "very often" but "not very willingly."

In the 15 to 16 age group there is a definite trend away from spending leisure within the family circle to spending it among peers. Among the main activities with friends of the same age are sport, listening to records and tapes, the radio, relaxing, doing nothing. As the survey was carried out in summer, many said they went to the open air swimming pool, which satisfied their need for physical activity and gave them a chance to make contact.

The survey demolishes the often heard complaint that young people do not know what to do with their free time and spend much of it sitting around in pubs. It showed that 80.4 per cent of young people never or rarely go to a pub or discotheque. Only 15 per cent of the 16 to 18 group occasionally go to a dance on Saturdays. The interest in the cinema and other commercial leisure activities was equally low.

But young people are not very happy with the non-commercial leisure possibilities. In particular, there do not seem to be adequate facilities for the 14 to 16 age group. A small number of young people met regularly ar clubs they had founded themselves, but the question of meeting places is often a major problem.

Schilling suggests that youth workers should in future pay more attention to informal meeting places. Young people want *leisure activities they can accept* quite naturally, they must not be commercial and they do not need palatial youth clubs. A coffee stand on a street corner, a discotheque in a rented room or a hobby corner in an empty factory hall can give young people more chance to use their own initiative than many a youth club where everything is planned and timetabled. Every community could afford to provide these facilities. Schilling says the money saved should be used to pay full-time social workers.

Doris Gothe

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 3 July 1978)

Teacher hits at poor sex education

KielerNachrichten

Sex education in West German schools is "indisputably in a pathetic state" according to Bonn educationalist Professor Rudi Maskus.

Professor Maskus, chairman of the German Society for Sex Education told the organisation's first annual meeting in Bonn that one of the main causes was ill-trained teachers. The Länder should ensure that teachers were given proper training and the universities should offer the necessary courses.

The society, whose members are teachers, doctors and laymen, also called for sex education to be made a compulsory examinable subject, the number of lectures and courses on it to be increased and more attention to be paid to the problem in the guidelines for various subjects. Kindergarten teachers and social workers should also be given a thorough training in sex education.

Like Maskus, Professor Ferdinand Rüther stressed that sex education should not be confined to biology lessons. He cited a poll at a school in Porz, a surburb of Cologne, where 88 per cent of the teachers favoured it being taught in a combination of subjects. Forty six per cent of pupils sais they had only been given sex education in biology lessons.

Dr Gisela Keunecke of Bonn, who has been working as a counselor for the family planning organisation *pro Familia* for seven years, said young people had a right to sex education. Sexuality should not be a frightening but a happy subject. Unfortunately social structures hostile to sexuality and based on irrational fears were still prevalent.

Dr Keunecke said harm could be done in adult life if children and young people grew up in an atmosphere where sex was taboo. It was essential that young people should have a proper sex education to "combat the growing neurotic and illness-causing tendencies in family and society," she said. Unfortunately scientists, politicians and laymen were only just beginning to take sexuality seriously.

dpa

(Kieler Nachrichten, 1 July 1978)

Duke's wedding

Continued from page 13

Beatrice Scherer, the bride, is a schoolgirl and the daughter of an oil dealer.

Players are cast solely on merit, the organisers say. Landshut people, on the other hand, freely admit that a certain amount of rigging may go on behind the scenes.

Given the cost of the original wedding feast over 500 years ago this year's festival is good value at DM1.3m. Ticket sales for the four weekend performances will recoup some of the expenditure.

Costumes and properties, behind-the-scenes organisation and the 800 policemen on duty to cope with an expected half million visitors nonetheless cost money.

Landshut during the festival season is swept along by the spirit of festivity. Once every three years a small town in Germany goes medieval and the communal spirit its unique festival fosters is felt to be well worth the trouble and expense.

Hans-Joachim Hofmann

(Münchner Merkur, 21 June 1978)

Psychologists probe child suicide bids

About 500 children aged between 5 and 15 commit suicide every year in West Germany and doctors estimate the number of attempted suicides at 10,000 a year at least.

According to the World Health Organisation West Germany has the sixth highest suicide rate for this age group after Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Chile and Taiwan.

Four child psychologists have analysed the motives for suicide among children in the medical magazine *Selecta*. According to them children often do not realise that suicide is an irreversible step. Children very often announce their intentions and then act "on a sudden incomprehensible impulse." All threats to commit suicide must be taken seriously both by parents and doctors.

Children are often unable to express their feelings and this is why it is so important to pay special attention to moods of derpression which can often precede suicide attempts.

Professor Erwin Ringel of Vienna believes attempted suicide by children is always connected with a difficult situation in the family and a "suicidal atmosphere."

Professor Manfred Müller-Küppers of Heidelberg stresses that every case of attempted suicide has to be seen as a cry for help, even if the motives are not easy to find and the child himself denies that he intended to commit suicide.

Often the immediate cause for the attempt is trivial. This is why one should not attach too much importance to the superficial motive, whether it be problems at school or with the girl or boyfriend. In Professor Müller-Küppers' opinion personality structures play a determining part here.

Dr Klaus Thomas found that of 650 pupils he treated, all the children under 11 with suicidal tendencies suffered from endogenous depression. The symptoms of these forms of depression are often misinterpreted as "aberrant behaviour with environmental causes."

"The main complaints in this connection were crying, lack of interest and motivation described as pure laziness, sleeplessness, restlessness and nervousness in general but also concentration difficulties," professor Thomas says.

Contrary to the general view, he does not believe that school, with its intense pressures on children to produce results is the main cause of suicide. "Of the 650 pupils we treated for suicidal tendencies, difficulties at school, often the result of parents' ambition, were subordinate causes in 30 per cent of cases. They were only the main cause in three per cent."

Claus Arendt

(Die Welt, 28 June 1978)

Two-man crews jostle for position in an Olympic class race during the Kiel Week regatta, now the world's largest. (Photo: Peter Kähler)

■ SPORT

Kiel anchors reputation as top world regatta

DIE ZEIT

Yachtsmen at this year's Kiel regatta queued at the slips like winter sportsmen at a ski lift. The jetties were as busy as a rush hour city car park.

Behind the starter buoys on the regatta lanes the scenes were reminiscent of paintings of armadas before a major navel battle.

More than 3,000 men and two dozen women captained and crewed some 1,200 dinghies and yachts in regatta races.

On land the Kiel Week supporting programme was probably the largest and best-attended popular festival run by a German city.

There were, as usual, the society events, such as the traditional regatta dinner at the Kiel Yacht Club – the former Imperial Yacht Club.

as a European congress that exceeded by far the local government perspective.

On land Kiel Week was primarily a festival for the public, both adults and children, and a decidedly democratic undertaking.

At sea the regatta has emerged as the largest in the world. There were more participants this year than at any sporting event in the country since the 1972 Munich Olympics, excepting only gymnastics festivals.

Competitors came from 28 countries, entering in 18 classes for races held on five courses, plus races that took yachtsmen well out into the Baltic.

In the Olympic classes yachtsmen from the Soviet Union fared best: 1972 Olympic gold medallist Valentin Mankin and his crewman Alexander Mutsytsenko won in the Star, Vladimir Leontyev and Yuri Tsubanov in the Flying Dutchman.

In 1980 the Olympic regatta will be in Tallinn in Soviet Estonia. Kiel this year was used for pre-Olympic preparations by a number of national teams.

As usual this country's best yachtsmen were among the leaders but failed to gain an overall victory in the six Olympic categories.

Tornado world champion Jörg Spengler and crew Rolf Dullenkopf had to make do with second place as runners-up to Prack and Peer of Austria.

The weather was a little calm at times, after a start so rough that dozens of dinghies capsized.

Competitors recalled the old joke that regatta racing would be easier going if all they had to do was to stand to attention under a cold shower and tear DM100 notes to pieces.

Alexander Rost

(Die Zeit, 7 July 1978)

Tougher Tour takes Thaler's jersey away

Klaus-Peter Thaler of Cologne wore the yellow jersey of the overall race leader for only two days in this year's Tour de France. His place was taken by teammate Gerrie Knetemann.

Last year Dietrich Thurau of Frankfurt wore the yellow jersey for 16 days. Does that make him so much the better cyclist? Clearly not.

There can be no comparison between last year and this. The situation was entirely different. The favourites were only seconds apart and no-one could make a break without risking a combined counterattack by the others.

There was no alternative from the viewpoint of the Raleigh team either. It was either Thurau or a member of another team.

Thaler was in a different position, closely challenged by team-mate Knetemann, who was able to inch up on him without risking a counterattack by the rest of the field.

What is more, Thaler was the only German in a bunch of Dutchman, and to say that the Dutch prefer to see a fellow-countryman leading is not necessarily to accuse them of chauvinism.

Were the roles reversed Germans, Belgians or French would undoubtedly have done the same.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 6 July 1978)

Saudi Arabia hires German coach

Soccer trainer Dettmar Cramer, 53, is Saudi Arabia-bound. After years in the headlines in Bundesliga football as trainer with Bayern Munich and Eintracht Frankfurt, he is returning to the fray as a Fifa soccer missionary.

His new club, Union Sporting Club of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, are paying good money: roughly DM30,000 a month after tax, plus a free home, car and other perquisites.

Cramer last made news when he switched from Munich to Frankfurt last November. But he failed to live up to Frankfurt's hopes, so his decision to resign a contract valid until next year came as no great surprise.

sid

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 5 July 1978)

Zauberer's late run wins Derby

Zauberer, the Hamburg Derby winner, nibbled at his wreath as jockey Bernd Selle smiled jubilantly and VIPs came over to congratulate them.

This year's 109th German Derby did not run true to either form or the tipsters' exceptations. Zauberer came a disappointing third in the Otto Schmidt Stakes a week before and was not expected to fare particularly well.

The Bona stables' stallion Zauberer was known to be a strong finisher but he was also reputed to need ample space to stage his challenge – too much space, the pundits said.

Then there were the other challengers, in particular the unbeaten Limbo, a horse praised by trainer Ossi Langner in the highest terms.

"When I enter his box he unties my shoelaces," he said. Limbo was easily the gavourite in ante-post betting, more so than almost any Derby entrant in the past decade.

Only First Lord was rumoured to stand the slightest chance against the favourite, and then only in soft going.

Soft the going certainly proved. It had rained in torrents. Fashion went by the board, preference being given to the umbrella.

The dismal weather disappointed a crowd of 40,000, including Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, a Hamburg man.

Twenty-two horses entered, the 23rd entry, Renucci, throwing his jockey in the run-up to the starter's flag and being disqualified.

As the field entered the home straight Zauberer was still nowhere in sight, having consistently stayed among the final third.

Limbo was well placed, but First Lord made the running, and he was known to be in his element in soft going. It looked like a win for Britain's Willie Carson.

Suddenly Zauberer began his challenge, gaining yard by yard in a tense finish. Ridden by 23-year-old Bernd Selle, he nosed his way first past the post.

"I took the lead on First Lord a moment too early," Willie Carson said afterwards. Limbo came third, but he is still a fine horse, as Ossi Langner rightly noted.

Gerhard Seehase

(Die Zeit, 7 July 1978)



Zauberer comes home first by a nose from First Lord in the German Derby in Hamburg. (Photo: Nordbild)